

Canaan Library Trustees Meeting

March 16, 2026

Draft Minutes

Call to Order: Nick called the meeting to order at 5:50 at the EOC.

Attendance

Members present: Cheryl Junker (2026), Nick Lavalley (2026), Nan Stone (2028); Members absent: Derek Herro (2027), and Joanna Carr (2026)

Librarian: Amy Thurber

Selectboard Representative: Sadie Wells

Friends of the Canaan Town Library Representative: Mike Daniels;

Visitor: Carol Ann Morrison

Minutes

Cheryl moved and Nick seconded a motion to accept the minutes of the February 2026 meeting as drafted.

The motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report

Cheryl reported that Library's debit card is now up and running. Billing for books from Ingram has been updated. All accounts are in order.

Nan moved and Nick seconded a motion to accept the Treasurer's report. The motion passed unanimously.

Librarian's Report, Amy:

February Circulation Figures:

Library Materials 1,345

Libby 744

Kanopy 72

Collection:

- Weeding of the Fiction Collection – novels, Mystery, Science Fic-on and Fantasy – is underway. All staff are participating in this multi-step project. Books are reviewed

in terms of physical condition and usage. Materials in poor condition, not used by patrons, or written by authors no longer being read are removed from the collection. Discarded books will be sold at the Old Home Days book sale.

- Work with our new book vendor is going well. The next phase is to set up how new books are processed. Baker & Taylor, our former distributor, did this for us, because it was more cost effective than purchasing book covers and bar codes and taking time away from staff who could be more usefully deployed. Amy will review our payments to B&T, Ingram's changes for the service and the current materials' costs.

One attendee volunteered to assist with the new book processing, a generous offer which was warmly acknowledged but not accepted. Federal regulations limit volunteers' participation to work that is not assigned to staff members in their job descriptions and/or work that is done under the direct supervision of a staff member.

Programs:

- Basement Bookies returned to holding their meetings in the library. The group met at the large table on the first floor without being disturbed or disturbing others.
- The most recent Culturally Curious art history program, offered virtually, had 67 registrants and 36 participants. We co-sponsor this program with the Lyme and Etna libraries and will be offering another 3-part series of talks this summer.
- Pub Trivia continues to be a hit: the next round will be in May.
- Poetry Reading and Share Aloud, May 18th. Local poet Amber Rose Crowtree will be back at the library in person to read from her poetry collection. Attendees are encouraged to read a poem of their own or one from a favorite poet.

Story Walk:

Sadly, the weather won: The Town Forest trail was under a foot of water and iced over. The event will be rescheduled at a later date.

Building:

- The lightning project will happen this week.
- John Coffey has ordered and will install a new flushometer for the library toilet.

Cheryl moved and Nick seconded a motion to accept the Librarian's report as given. The motion passed unanimously.

Committee Updates:

Committee Reassignments were postponed to next month so that all members can be present.

Friends of the Library:

- The recent annual appeal was the most successful ever. The number of donors increased as did total donations. The appeal will be expanded to include Dorchester and Orange.
- The Friends are organizing a reading of “The Midnight Ride of Paul Revere” on Patriots’ Day, April 18, from 10 AM to 12 PM. The event will kick off the town’s celebration of the country’s 250th birthday.
- Following the successful “Tea with Jane Austen,” Tthe Friends will host a second Tea, on June 16, 2026, in honor of Abigail Adams,.

Business Updates:

- Election of Officers for 2026-27 was postponed to the next meeting.
- Discussion of alternates:
With the concurrence of the trustees, Nick appointed Nan Munsey and Carol Ann Morrison as alternates.
- Requests had been made to consider moving the Trustees’ meeting to a day other than Monday. No viable alternative being found, we will continue to meet on the third Monday of the month except in January and February when the day is also a national holiday. Those meetings will be re-scheduled at the prior month’s session.
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Calendar Items:

“Midnight Ride of Paul Revere” reading – April 18th, 10am – 12pm at the library, with the reading to begin at 11

National Librarians Week is April 19-25.

Other Business and Adjournment:

There being no other business, Nan moved and Nick seconded a motion to adjourn, which passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 6:40.

