Canaan Library Trustees Meeting

November 16, 2026

Minutes

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

Attendance:

Trustees: Nick Lavalley, Nan Stone, Joanna Carr, Nan Munsey;

Librarian: Amy Thurber;

Friends of the Canaan Town Library Representative: Mike Daniels;

Absent: Derek Herro, Carol Ann Morrison, Sadie Wells

Minutes Review:

There being no corrections Joanna moved and Nick seconded a motion to accept the October 19, 2026 minutes as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

Review Action Items:

In Derek's absence discussion of the condition report on the 3rd floor wood samples and payment of the invoice was tabled to the December meeting.

Treasurer's Report for October (Nick):

Library expenses are as expected. Overages reflect a change in the way the town accounts for certain shared services, such as electricity. These accounts have been budgeted as stand-alone line items in the 2027 library budget.

Nan S. moved and Joanna seconded a motion to accept the Treasurer's report as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

Librarian's Report:

Circulation Figures:

Library materials 1,486

Libby 726

Kanopy 186

Collections:

- Pam continues to be engaged in inventory work, while Lori and Jenna continue their training in cataloguing.

Programs:

- Pass the Book: attendance at this recently reprised program has been light. Unless attendance picks up in the remaining weeks, the program will be retired.
- Pub Trivia will be back on December 1, 8 and 15 with Ken Lary and Amy as co-hosts.
- Poetry Reading: Doug and Patsy King, members of the North Country Poets, who were warmly received at the poetry slam earlier this year, have a new book out. Amy would like to host a similar event in February or March, and the Kings indicated they would be glad to read again. The library will publicize the event and reach out to other local poets once the Christmas holidays are ended.

Building:

- Frank has replaced the weather stripping and fixed the threshold of the lift entry door with the goal of keeping it easy to close all winter.
- Amy met with Matt Dow, who now has the measurements his builder needs to construct the new first-floor bookcase the Friends have given the library.

Budget:

- Amy's presentation of the 2027 budget was well received by the Committee. Amy will send the library's anticipated revenue figure to the Chairman.
- Funding requests need to be sent to Orange and Dorchester.

Other:

- Amy will submit the library's write-up for the town report as soon as our year-end figures are final.

Donations:

- Donations totaling $1,600 have been gratefully received from Leila Terhune in memory of Lorna Terhune, Christiane Hallowell in memory of Lola Baldwin, and Margaret Mitchell.

  Joanna moved and Nan M. seconded a motion to accept the donations. The motion passed unanimously, and Amy now can and will acknowledge them.

Nan M. moved and Nan S. seconded to accept the librarian's report as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

Committee Updates:

Nothing to report.

Friends of the Library:

- The annual appeal has been drafted and there will be a letter-stuffing party in the Methodist Church Vestry on November 19 from 5:30 to 7.

- The Conservation Commission will be discussing the Story Walk in the Town Forest on December 7. Mike will attend on behalf of the Friends.
- The Friends are sponsoring a program Feb 3, 2027 on using on-line resources to research one's ancestry and genealogy. The speaker will be a specialist from the Danforth Library in Henniker, NH.
- The Friends have become members of the American Library Association and will share information about their resources and programing with the library.

Selectboard Update:

Nothing to report.

Calendar Items:

Christmas in Canaan is December 12th from 4 to 7 PM. Word will go out if help ahead of time is needed.

Other Business:

- Spark, a traveling exhibit about American innovation, organized by the Smithsonian Museum, will be on display at Cardigan Mountain School in late Feb/March. In parallel, thanks to our own town historians, a series of exhibits and events focused on local innovators and innovations will be on display at the library and elsewhere in town. More information about both exhibits will be available soon!

Adjourn: There being no other business, Nan M. moved and Joanna seconded a motion to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously at 6:48.

Respectfully submitted,

Nan Stone, Secretary