

Bent Northrop Memorial Library
Trustee Meeting Minutes
Date: 1/15/26, 4:30pm

In person: 164 Park Street, Fairfield, VT 05455

Virtual via Zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84531080029?pwd=aWI6xGcIAGQsQytCliz7UHnU1FRU8h.1>

Meeting ID: 845 3108 0029

Passcode: 147816

Call to Order : Susan called the meeting to order at 4:34 PM.

Attendance: Charon True, Susan Magnon, Cathy Ainsworth, Larry Edelson, Geoffrey Pac, Sorel Chaput, Sarah Allerton, Michele Fiener.

Public to be Heard: None

Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting(s): Susan made the motion to approve the minutes from 12/18/25. Sorel seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

Approval of Warrants: To be signed next time.

Treasurer's Report: The year of 2025 is closed out! Sarah and Cathy are finalizing the last 30 dollars. There was a fuel delivery during the past month as well. The Wallis and Wanzer CDs are up this year (we have a better rate). Budget reports are due to town next week.

Sorel asked when the fees for managing our assets get taken out. This fee comes out quarterly. The Trustees will meet with the financial advisor every six months (the next being March).

Librarian's Report: The last few numbers are getting settled. The Ingram books finally did get delivered in 2025. The technology consultant also billed us for setting up the new computers. (Which will be another charge when the rest of the computers are in). Computer prices are expected to go up.

Lots of programming: Baby and Me Yoga started (monthly sessions), Story Hours continue to be popular, book group, sushi making class, Take Your Child to Library Day (week), and more! See Librarian's Report for full details.

Friends Report: Charon shared they are getting closer to a fire protection protocol so we can have more than 99 people for the To-Bid Event. Bar service is still a challenge, as prices have escalated, insurance rates have sky-rocketed, and regulations are stricter. If both of these get sorted out, the event will be September 26th. Michele asked if there would be any consideration for people who do not want alcohol. Charon will raise this question with the Friends.

Business

- Motion to release mortgage payment: Susan made a motion to have Cathy release the mortgage payment from Schwab to People's Trust Company. Larry seconded. Motion passed 5-0.
- BNML & Friends Funding Roadmap update: Larry shared the document with Trustees and Friends. Larry and Sarah have filled in what the money was spent on in 2025. The numbers have been transferred into 2026 if they are to be spent again (such as baby items, summer reading program, etc) as a place to start the discussion.
- Finalize Town Meeting Article (final budget request amount): Susan made the motion that we settle on the budget of \$218,982, of which \$140,000 will be the ask from the town through taxes. Geoff seconded. Motion passed 5-0.
- Initial Town Meeting Prep: Sarah asked Sorel and Geoff if they are planning on running to stay on the board, both say yes. Sarah is planning on doing a book sale again during this to encourage people to come down, like an open house style with coffee and muffins. Door prize maybe. Sarah will coordinate with Sorel and Larry to create the Trustee Letter for the Town Report due on 1/22.
- Long range planning: Final review: Final formatting has been completed, plus some attachments for the repairs schedule and the technology inventory. Susan made the motion to approve the Long Range Planning document. Larry seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

Other Business: None

Executive Session: If needed

Agenda Items for Next Meeting: Joint collaboration meeting with Friends

Adjourn: Susan adjourned the meeting at 5:57 PM.

Next Meeting: 2/19/26, 4:30pm