

Library Board of Trustees Somers

Public Library

April 22, 2025

Minutes "Special" Meeting
(Rescheduled from April 15, 2025)

Members present: Catherine Embriano, Lisa Gladysz, Mike Gruber, Jack Kertenis, Ann Levesque, Marybeth Marquardt, Andy Phillips, Bob Socha

Members absent: John Kelleher

Also present: Joanne Nichting, Library Director
Gene Grayson, Community Member
Tim Welch, Community Member

Chairperson Andy Phillips called the meeting to order at 6:31 PM.

First Audience to Citizens: None

Approval of Minutes: Minutes from the March 18, 2025 meeting were presented and reviewed. Mr. Kertenis moved to approve the minutes; seconded by Mr. Socha. Abstentions: Ms. Gladysz, Mr. Gruber. Minutes approved.

Correspondence: None

Treasurer's Report:

The Treasurer's report was distributed and discussed. Ms. Nichting made note of a couple items, including a state incentive grant that was received and will appear on next month's report, additions to the library of things, and the steam cleaning of the carpets. The report will be filed for audit.

Financial Business:

The FY25 year-to-date financial report was presented by Ms. Nichting. She reviewed several line items. The report will be filed for audit.

Committee Reports: None

Old Business:

Pavilion Update - Mr. Socha reported on the Board of Selectmen meeting during which he gave a presentation. He said it was a good meeting and that the selectmen are on board with the project. He will begin working with Todd Rolland next week. Mr. Socha also suggested that the pavilion size be increased to 20' x 30' to accommodate more people. In its current design, the fire marshall indicated a max occupancy of 32 people. The consensus of the board is that the increased size seems like a good idea to pursue. In addition, Ms. Embriano reported on her attempts to contact Marge Griswold, the niece of Hazel Neelans. She located her at Evergreen nursing home and will attempt to visit her to inform her of the project and plans for dedication in honor of Ms. Neelans.

Friends of the Library Appreciation – To express the Board's appreciation for all that the Friends do for the library, Ms. Gladysz made a motion to pay up to \$600 for the Friend's annual celebration meal (excluding alcohol). Seconded by Mr. Socha. Unanimously passed.

Furniture – Ms. Nichting provided an update on quotes she obtained for basic chairs to replace some old, worn ones in the library. The quotes ranged from approximately \$1,100 to \$1,500 per chair. She will continue to research and look for more cost-effective alternatives.

New Business:

Bowers Tournament – In keeping with past years, Ms. Gladysz moved to close the library on May 31, 2025, the day of the Bowers Tournament. Mr. Kertenis seconded. Motion passed.

DPW Appreciation – In recognition of the service the DPW provides to the library, Mr. Socha moved to spend up to \$200 for lunch for the DPW team. Mr. Gruber seconded. Motion passed.

Director's Report:

Ms. Nichting presented her Director's Report to the Board, which included general library information, program attendance, circulation, meeting space usage, and other updates on library events. She reviewed many of the bulleted items, along with the circulation and patron statistics. The report was accepted as presented.

Second Audience to Citizens: None

The meeting was adjourned at 7:28 PM. The next meeting will be on May 20, 2025.

Respectfully submitted,
Lisa Gladysz

MINUTES NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED AT A SUBSEQUENT MEETING