

Library Board of Trustees
Somers Public Library
May 20, 2025

Members present: Catherine Embriano, Lisa Gladysz, Mike Gruber, John Kelleher, Jack Kertenis, Ann Levesque, Marybeth Marquardt, Andy Phillips, Bob Socha
Also present: Joanne Nichting, Library Director
Gene Grayson, Community Member

Chairperson Andy Phillips called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

First Audience to Citizens: None

Approval of Minutes: Minutes from the April 22, 2025 meeting were presented and reviewed. Mr. Socha moved to approve the minutes; seconded by Mr. Kertenis. Abstentions: Mr. Kelleher. Minutes approved.

Correspondence: None

Treasurer's Report:

The Treasurer's report was distributed and discussed. Ms. Nichting made note of a couple items, including an incentive grant that was received from the CT State Library along with another distribution from the Neelans trust. The endowment fund value bounced back from the previous month's losses. The report will be filed for audit.

Financial Business:

The FY25 year-to-date financial report was presented by Ms. Nichting. She noted that the technology line will run into the red, but that funds will be covered from other line items. The report will be filed for audit.

Committee Reports:

Friends of the Library – Mr. Kertenis reported on the FOL's last board meeting noting that they made approx. \$7,500 at the spring book sale. The Friends also approved Ms. Nichting's wish list - including some museum pass renewals and funds for summer reading – totaling over \$4,500.

Old Business:

Pavilion Update - Mr. Socha provided updated quotes and documentation based on a larger size pavilion which now includes a closed space for storage. Additional discussion ensued. Mr. Socha will provide a full budget proposal with options in advance of the next Board meeting. To ensure attendance at the next meeting by as many board members as possible, Mr. Kertenis moved to move the meeting from June 17 to June 10, 2025. Ms. Marquardt seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Furniture – Ms. Nichting provided an update on additional quotes she obtained for basic chairs to replace some old, worn ones in the library. The new quotes per chair were much more reasonable. Mr. Socha moved to spend up to \$5,500 on 16 new chairs. Seconded by Mr. Kertenis. Unanimously approved.

New Business:

Mr. Socha informed the Board that Francine Aloisa's (former Library Director) husband William passed away recently. In his obituary, the family requested donations to one of two organizations in lieu of flowers. Mr. Kertenis moved to donate \$200 to New England Donor Services in William Aloisa's name. Ms. Levesque seconded. Motion unanimously approved. Mr. Phillips will send a sympathy card to Francine on behalf of the Board.

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, making special mention of a new Children's Library Assistant who will start work at the library on May 27th. The report was accepted as presented.

Second Audience to Citizens: None

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 PM. The next meeting will be on June 10, 2025.

Respectfully submitted,
Lisa Gladysz

MINUTES NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED AT A SUBSEQUENT MEETING