

AMHERST TOWN LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES MINUTES

January 12, 2026

Attendees: Nancy Baker, Liz Larson, Steve Mantius, CJ Butler, Dave Hallenbeck, Gretchen Pyles, and Amy Lapointe

Via Zoom: Nancy Head

Nancy Baker called the meeting to order at 5:34 p.m.

Minutes from November 17, 2025: Steve moved and Liz seconded to approve minutes. Motion passed unanimously.

Library Director's Report:

Statistics: Statistics reviewed; door count up.

Upcoming and Ongoing Adult Programs: Several upcoming adult programs will be virtual.

Children's programs are still ongoing even though meeting in the temporary area on the main floor.

Facilities: New cleaning company starting today; all cleaning expenses are on one central town line.

Reader's Advisory: Winter bingo board available to all ages; ATL Favorite Reads available again this year.

Town: The Deliberative Session is scheduled for February 4, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. at Souhegan.

GMILCS: There will be a system upgrade on January 29, 2026 so there will be limited service.

Circulation: Promoting linked accounts that would allow all family accounts to be linked so each family member can see all items checked out.

News/Updates: Carla achieved Level 4 Paralibrarian certification.

New Gifts: \$183.00 from the Friends of the Library Book Club for the purchase of nonfiction books; \$4,000 from Candace Rapf; Steve moved and Liz seconded to accept these gifts; motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: The budget was discussed; we are on budget.

Old Business:

FY27 Budget: For the FY27 proposed budget, health insurance, dental insurance and custodial lines are being rolled into town lines instead of individual department lines. Steve moved to approve the proposed FY27 budget; Dave seconded; motion passed unanimously.

New Business:

Library Trustees Election: Steve and Nancy H. are up for re-election; the filing period to run for office is January 21, 2026 through January 30, 2026.

Lower Level Reconstruction: On November 19, 2026, the water heater leaked causing extensive damage to the lower level of the library; ServPro completed the work to get everything clean and dry; DPW is interviewing contractors to complete repairs; discussed performing some improvements while the repairs are being done including possible new paint, new shelving, some lighting improvements, updated AV equipment, and new furniture.

Steve moved and Liz seconded to adjourn. The meeting ended at 6:44 p.m.

Next Scheduled Meeting: Monday, February 16, 2026 at 6:00 p.m.