

AMHERST TOWN LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES MINUTES

June 25, 2026

Attendees: Nancy Baker, Gretchen Pyles, Dave Hallenbeck, CJ Butler, Toni Dinkel, Jim McGinness, Liz Larson, Sarah Leonardi and Amy Lapointe

Nancy Baker called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m.

Minutes from May 18, 2026: Liz Larson moved and Toni Dinkel seconded to approve the minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

Library Director's Report:

Dramatic decrease in circulation - primarily due to change in circulation period. Also, downstairs construction has had a negative effect. Lack of meeting space hurting door count.

Summer reading numbers have been 232 adults, 106 teens, 413 kids. Really impressive numbers.

Upcoming programming mostly virtual. "Evening of Poetry" group has been really positive, totally self sustaining. Kickoff summer concert was awesome.

Closed Friday through Sunday for Fourth of July. Closed Sundays through summer.

Treasurer's Report: Renovation deposit that showed in Buildings and Grounds line was moved to DPW budget. On track to meet budget.

Old Business:

Recap staff-trustee discussion - All agreed that it is important to have these meetings to get the staff's input and insights; discussed main points from the meeting; agreed to provide feedback to the staff.

Lower level reconstruction - Moving forward with reconstruction; future updates to be provided to patrons.

New Business:

Jim McGinness attended the NHLTA meeting as well as the Regional Gathering in Center Harbor; topics discussed included connection with state library, IMLS funding, how to work with Friends groups, and how to fundraise for new construction; Jim volunteered to work with NHLTA on its website; NHLTA is looking for more volunteers.

The board was very glad to have Sarah Leonardi at this meeting. She had great insights to provide to the board.

Jim McGinness moved and Toni Dinkel seconded a motion to adjourn. The meeting ended at 11:11 a.m.

Next Scheduled Meeting: **Monday, August 10, 2026 at 6:00 p.m.**