

**AMHERST TOWN LIBRARY TRUSTEES MEETING**  
**May 19, 2025**

Attendance: Amy Lapointe, Nancy Baker, Nancy Head, Gretchen Pyles, Steve Mantius, Dave Hallenbeck, C.J. Butler, Jim McGinness and Liz Larson

Attending via zoom: Toni Dinkel

Public meeting called to order at 6:03 p.m. by Nancy Baker.

**Minutes of April 21st Board Meeting:** Steve moved to approve the April Library Board of Trustees' meeting minutes; Nancy Head seconded; all were in favor.

**Director's Report:**

- **Statistics:** Statistics reviewed; door count has flattened out; new patrons is down
- **Adult Programs:** Lots of upcoming programs; several will be held on zoom; attendance via zoom is often consistent; book discussions will be offered in a way to allow people to attend when available; GMILCS Library Hop offered again to encourage patrons to visit other libraries; Bookopoly will be the theme of the summer reading program for adults
- **Children's Programs:** Focusing on upcoming summer reading program; visiting all local schools; Level Up at Your Library will be the theme of the summer reading program with a kick off concert with Steve Blunt on June 16, 2025; on Mondays there will be a Chalk the Walk program
- **Town:** New health insurance program will be offered by SchoolCare for one year; meeting this week to work out the details
- **Friends of the Library:** Over 400 works of arts are on display as part of the Student Art Show; 692 people attended during the Open House; End of the Year meeting will be held on June 6th at noon at Liz Larson's house
- **News:** Library will be closed for Memorial Day and the summer schedule will begin on Father's Day; New England Aquarium pass will be offered again for summer weekdays

**New Gifts:**

- No new gifts.

**Treasurer's Report:**

- Investments are recovering from downturn; no changes at this time

**Old Business:**

- **Status of pending litigation:** NH State Library is still receiving their regular allocation of funds; judge has temporarily blocked further dismantling of IMLS funds; upcoming hearings on some pending bills; Mellon Foundation has offered some funding for state humanities programs; Carla Hayden was terminated as the Librarian of Congress
- **Policy updates:** A revised collection development policy is being reviewed by staff and will be discussed at an upcoming meeting
- **Joint meeting with staff:** Life Trends in Business 2025 article may be discussed during the meeting on June 24th at 8:30 a.m.

## **New Business:**

- **Report from NHLTA Conference:** Dave and Jim attended the recent NHLTA meeting; they reported that Kelly Jensen spoke at the meeting and discussed threats to books and libraries; she also discussed books that have been banned in New Hampshire; there was a presentation about safety in libraries; there was also a presentation about how libraries can use AI; it was discussed that libraries should create policies when incorporating AI technology into library services; there was also a case study about Hooksett Public Library's flood with a focus on crisis response (town policies and insurance, etc.) and how to think ahead of time for all types of emergencies

- **Boardman Concert Update:** We are engaging Trio Belmont for our Boardman Concert on November 9, 2025 at 3:00 p.m.; they have performed at the Groton Music Center and received excellent reviews; it is a piano, clarinet and cello trio

Nancy Head moved to close the meeting at 7:00; Steve seconded; all were in favor.

The next Amherst Town Library Trustees meeting is **June 24, 2025 at 8:30 a.m.**