

LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Library Meeting Room

Chaplin, Connecticut

Regular Meeting Minutes

May 19, 2025

Vice-Chair Jeanette Haines called the meeting to order at 6:31 PM. Board members present: Adele Swart, Diane Sanchez, Diana Alvarez, Alternate Joyce St. Lawrence. Others: Library Director Sandra Horning.

Audience: Assistant Librarian Lisa Nadile. Absent: Leslie Ricklin, Bill Jenkins.

Alternate Joyce St. Lawrence seated for Bill Jenkins.

3. APPROVAL OF APRIL 21, 2025 MINUTES:

Motion to approve April 21, 2025 regular meeting minutes, made by Diane Sanchez with the following correction: Item #7B1 should read – “Leslie Ricklin sat in on meeting with 1st Selectman discussing plan”.

Motion seconded by Diana Alvarez and carried with abstentions by Adele Swart, Diane Sanchez, Joyce St. Lawrence.

4. AUDIENCE FOR CITIZENS: None

5. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA: None

6. CORRESPONDENCE:

- Commitment letter regarding E-rate (Internet) funding of \$1,180 for next fiscal year.
- Letter from the State regarding IMLS funding restored for this fiscal year.
- Notice from Overdrive regarding increase for Bibliomation (subscription for magazines, audiobooks, eBooks) – \$619.95 this year, \$719.95 for FY 2025-26, \$1,019.95 for FY 2026-27.

7. REPORTS:

A. Director's Report:

April – 595 people in-person (open 16 days with average of 37 people per day). Circulation - 783 (421 items checked out, 187 electronic checkouts). About 220 people attended in-person events.

- Attended CT Library Association Conference in Mystic – spoke about funding (continuing as normal regardless of Executive Orders), attended session on making dementia friendly library with tons of resources to share with Senior Center, crossword puzzle handouts to display in the library, picture books available to order (designed for people with dementia).
- Next Book Chat is May 23rd at 3pm.
- Next Cookbook Club is June 25th at 6:30pm with recipes from Johanna Gaines.
- Summer Reading events – Science Center - Bubbleology (June 18th), Make Music Day with Seafaring songs (June 21st - 11am), Wildlife Possum Rescue (June 25th - 10:30am), Mini Art Display (July).

B. Board Chair's Report:

Discussed progress of parking lot – parking spaces removed near front door of Library and Senior Center, parking lot squared off with only one entrance (expensive to move power pole), adding island with greenery, concerns with closing 2nd entrance if there is an emergency especially during curbside pickup (could put chain across 2nd entrance to only use for emergencies).

C. Board Members' Report: None

8. OLD/NEW BUSINESS:

A. Speaker Programs:

- Talk by Tyler Kania on his memoir (deals with bipolar diagnosis) on May 21st at 6:30pm.
- Talk by Donna Dufresne on 29th Colored Regiment of the Civil War on May 28th at 6:30pm.

B. Budget proposal update for FY 25-26: Budget vote tomorrow 12-8pm at the Fire Department.

C. Friends of the Library update:

- Voting this Wednesday on Bylaws and Mission Statement (Board presented copies).
- Thanks to everyone that helped with installing the Story Book Walk.
- Need to sign contract with Goodbye Irene to come back next year on March 7th.
- Little Free Library constructed and almost done - needs to be painted (will be installed by the playground at Garrison Park).
- Will discuss honoring Cathy Smith's quilting (Library will also do an event).
- Museum of the Month - Tantaquidgeon Museum.

D. Library Questionnaire discussion next steps: Tabled

E. Director's concern about a person's use of the library update:

Person came in this week with no issues - checked out book with library card from Canterbury (Diana will check on available services).

F. Discussion about Library coverage during Director's leave of absence:

Lisa Nadile, Leslie Ricklin and Sandy Horning met to discuss Library coverage details for Director's leave of absence September 1st through November 30th (will send to Board for review).

Motion for Library Board of Trustees to recommend Lisa Nadile as Interim Library Director to Board of Selectmen with contract to be presented and approved mutually, made by Diana Alvarez, seconded by Diane Sanchez and carried unanimously.

G. Schedule of events new poet Laureate's reception Aug. 22:

Will be held in the evening similar to event for Adelaide under the tent – need Subcommittee to create program that should include: official thank you to Adelaide, Adelaide welcoming her daughter as new Poet Laureate, comments from BOS (Adele and Diane volunteered - will meet with Sandy June 9th at 1pm in the library).

H. Landscaping:

Landscaper did a good job last week with spring cleanup, cutting back juniper and trimming red maple – asked about doing pollinator garden (keep low maintenance) and splitting Rose of Sharon and Hosta to give to Friends to sell (could do a raffle - Friends will discuss).

9. ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA: June 16, 2025

- Items from current agenda

10. ADJOURN:

Motion to adjourn (7:46 PM) made by Diana Alvarez, seconded by Joyce St. Lawrence and carried unanimously.

***Respectfully submitted by Kathleen Scott
Recording Clerk***