

Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes
Meeting Room Side B
Monday, January 12, 2026

Present: Kathleen Kenny (Director), Meryle Zusman (Chair), Andrea Lindsey (Vice Chair), Lorraine Lindenberg (Treasurer), Monica Cataldo (Secretary), Pete Marcotte, Jessica Restucci, Victoria Austin, Erin Spencer (Town Council DPL Liaison)

Absent: None

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 p.m. by Trustee Zusman.

PUBLIC SESSION

Amendments to Agenda:

Director Kenny requested that three quarterly fund distributions be added to *Gifts* as unanticipated revenues.

Acceptance of Minutes:

BOT MEETING 12/15/2025 - Director Kenny requested amending, under New Business, a change in wording regarding Jessica DeLangie's position, from "promote" to "given the responsibilities". Trustee Zusman requested, under Director and Staff Reports, that the wording be clarified regarding the note and cart for in-house "borrowed" books in the YA section of the library.

Motion to accept the Minutes of the Board of Trustees meeting, held on December 15, 2025, as amended, by Trustee Zusman. Seconded by Trustee Marcotte. Motion passed 7-0.

Treasurer Report:

Trustee Lindenberg noted that the library is six months into FY2026. Trustee Marcotte noted that the difference between the budgeted and actual amounts is shrinking due to the GMILCS dues paid in July slowly balancing out.

Trustee Lindenberg reported that the holiday gift cards for the staff, and the library book bags for sale come from the Fine Account within the Special Funds.

Director and Staff Reports:

Trustee Zusman inquired about HB1214, a bill that would allow municipal bodies to take control of local libraries. Director Kenny reported that the NHLTA is keeping an eye on the bill, since it may affect all New Hampshire libraries, if passed. Once passed, any effect on libraries will only

take place by a town vote. Director Kenny mentioned that there is a YouTube video of the presentation about this bill by Representative Perez, the bill's sponsor, to the Leach Library Board of Trustees.

Trustee Lindenberg requested that these reports be paginated. There was general agreement on this need.

Trustee Marcotte commented on the increase in downloadable books and asked if that was by design. Director Kenny felt that it may be due to the fact that in the wake of Baker & Taylor's closure, the library is experiencing delays in receiving books from Ingram (the library's main vendor for print materials).

Trustee Austin asked about building capacity, related to the library's special programs' attendance. Director Kenny replied that the library is in compliance.

Trustee Cataldo commented on the helpfulness of the TOC of the Reference Desk Service Guide, updated by Heather Walker-White.

Trustee Austin asked about the status of the Ingram book shipments, and whether the library could source books from elsewhere. Director Kenny replied that Amazon is filling some of the gap at favorable pricing.

Trustee Lindsey complimented Jennifer Khoury on the new Derry Library newsletter.

Gifts:

Quarterly trust fund distributions were scheduled for December 31, 2025:

\$25.48 from the Sarah MacMurphy Fund;
\$153.45 from the Helen Hood Fund;
\$15.36 from the Arts & Crafts Fund

Trustee Zusman made a motion to "Accept any and all unrestricted monetary gifts and unanticipated revenue." Seconded by Trustee Lindenberg. Motion passed 7-0.

Correspondence:

Trustee Cataldo sent a thank-you card to Susan Beecher for her donation of \$100 to the Derry Public Library. Trustee also read thank-you notes from the staff for the holiday gift cards.

Announcements:

No new announcements.

Public Comment:

Sam Schreiner introduced himself as a potential Trustee Alternate. This led to a brief discussion about the upcoming election filing period, and how to get the word out regarding Trustee vacancies.

NEW BUSINESS:

Recommendation by the Finance Committee regarding the 2027 budget: The bottom line will be 3.01% higher than the 2026 budget. Due to higher health insurance rates, insurance buyout for new hires will be capped at \$10,000.

Trustee Cataldo asked for clarification regarding the insurance buyout cap.

Trustee Lindsey asked about potential savings by the town and library when the solar-powered electricity comes online. Director Kenny replied that the savings amount was suggested by the town management.

Trustee Marcotte requested that a future meeting address the parameters of Fine Account spending guidelines. He also asked for clarification regarding the use of the Fine Account in the budget proposal. Director Kenny explained that by having the library use some of the Special Funds account, it shows the town council that the library is, in good faith, using its own resources and not just asking for higher amounts in the annual budget request.

Motion to accept the proposed 2027 budget by Trustee Lindenberg. Seconded by Trustee Cataldo. Motion passed 7-0.

Trustee Zusman asked about whether the Special Funds were in an interest-bearing account, and Trustee Lindenberg replied that the funds earn about \$6000 annually.

Trustee Cataldo reviewed the changes to the Assistant Library Director Rider description, which was approved by the Personnel Committee. Director Kenny explained that the rider is an add-on to an existing position.

Motion to accept the changes by Trustee Zusman. Seconded by Trustee Lindsey. Motion passed 7-0.

OLD BUSINESS:

Trustee Austin asked about DPL plans to celebrate the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence. There was a brief discussion of potential plans that may include the anniversary of the NH State Constitution.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to adjourn by Trustee Marcotte. Seconded by Trustee Lindsey. Motion passed 7-0.

Meeting adjourned at 7:39 p.m.

Next meeting is Monday, February 9, 2026 at 6:30 p.m. in Meeting Room Side A.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Monica Cataldo, Board Secretary