

**BEDFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MINUTES
May 9, 2025**

A regular meeting of the Bedford Public Library Board of Trustees was held on May 9, 2025 in the Richmond Room. In attendance were Lee Joyce (Chair), Jerry Hanauer (Treasurer), Lauren Saidel-Baker (Trustee), Catherine Rombeau (Alternate Trustee), Kevin Brown (Alternate Trustee), Miriam Johnson (Director), and Caitlin Loving (Assistant Director). The meeting was called to order at 9:04 a.m.

Public Comments: A patron expressed their appreciation for the library and all that we do.

Secretary's Report—Minutes from the April 4, 2025 meeting were accepted and approved.

Treasurer's Report—The Treasurer's report was reviewed and accepted.

Acceptance of Gifts—Miscellaneous donations - \$96.00; Trex bench from the Bedford Lions Club.

Motion: Lauren made a motion to accept all gifts; Lee seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Director's Report – See attached.

Old Business:

Alternate Trustees—The alternate Trustees have been sworn in by the Town Clerk.

Trustee Funds Disbursement Request—The interest from the Trust Funds has been requested. It was proposed that the Trustees of the Trust Funds and the money managers for the Trust Funds come to a Board of Library Trustees meeting to iron out the disbursement process.

Public restroom assessment—Lee discussed the current status of the restrooms and the need for updates. Miriam said that Peter can bring in an engineering firm to look at the space and propose a redesign; Miriam will contact Peter about this.

New Business:

Gardening supplies—Miriam asked for \$200 to spend on gardening supplies.

Motion: Jerry made a motion to approve spending up to \$200 on gardening supplies; Lauren seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Staff Summer Reading—Miriam requested funds for the Staff Summer Reading program.

Motion: Lauren made a motion to approve spending \$140 on the Staff Summer Reading program; Lee seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Bike pump and tools—The library receives an annual grant from the Derry Medical Center and would like to purchase a bike pump stand and a bike tools stand, which would be a permanent installation near the bike rack. Lee asked about maintenance. Miriam will look at a similar setup in Manchester.

NHLTA Recap—The NHLTA conference was very good. Jerry and Lauren enjoyed the session from the NH Municipal Association about how a bill becomes a law. Lauren also attended an interesting program on AI. Caitlin went to a session on safety in the library and will work on a draft of a security camera policy. Miriam attended an informative session on donor gifts and responsibilities. The slides for all presentations are available on the NHLTA website.

Potential bills—There was a brief discussion of the bills that may be passed at the Statehouse that would affect the library.

Volunteer Policy Review—The volunteer policy was reviewed, with one minor amendment regarding the length of time for volunteer appointments.

Motion: Jerry made a motion to approve the policy as amended; Lauren seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Landscaping Project—There was a brief discussion of the proposed landscaping project. Drone pictures will be taken of the area and planting ideas will be sketched out.

Puppet Theater—There had been a proposed Eagle Scout project to have a new puppet theater built, but the timeline did not work out. There are backup plans to get the puppet theater built.

The next meetings will be held on Friday, June 13, 2025; Friday, July 11, 2025; Friday, August 8, 2025; Friday, September 19, 2025; and Friday, October 3, 2025; at 9:00 a.m. in the Richmond Room. The meeting adjourned at 10:03 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Miriam Johnson
Library Director

Caitlin Loving
Assistant Director