

**BEDFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MINUTES
August 18, 2026**

A regular meeting of the Bedford Public Library Board of Trustees was held on August 18, 2026 in the New Hampshire Room. In attendance were Lee Joyce (Chair), Lauren Saidel-Baker (Treasurer), Angela Baldi (Trustee), Catherine Rombeau (Alternate Trustee), Kevin Brown (Alternate Trustee), Miriam Johnson (Director), and Caitlin Loving (Assistant Director). The meeting was called to order at 2:03 p.m.

Approval of Minutes—July 13, 2026 Regular meeting of Library Board of Trustees.

Motion: Lauren Saidel-Baker made a motion to approve the July 13, 2026 regular meeting minutes; Angela Baldi seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

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

Acceptance of Gifts: Miscellaneous donations -- \$33.00; Derry Medical Center Foundation -- \$1,000.00; Craftworkers' Guild (books) -- \$150.00

Motion: Angela Baldi made a motion to accept all donations; Lauren Saidel-Baker seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Director's Report — See attached.

Old Business:

Public Restroom Project – CIP—Miriam Johnson filled out the CIP form and submitted it to the Finance Department.

Landscaping Project – begin 8/17 or 8/18—The landscaping project will begin tomorrow (August 19th—delayed slightly due to weather) and is estimated to take about two weeks to complete.

New Business:

2027 Budget Timeline—Miriam Johnson has submitted the budget to the Finance Department.

Policy Review: Request for Review and Reconsideration of Library Policy—There was a brief discussion of adding a timeline and procedural information to the policy. Miriam Johnson will review the other reconsideration policies and draft an addition that includes this information.

Strategic Planning—There was a brief discussion of the final two chapters of Strategic Planning for Public Libraries. Miriam Johnson will contact the Milford Public Library to inquire about the consultant they are using for their strategic plan.

Book Repair Class—Miriam Johnson requested a \$75.00 honorarium for Diane Marshall, who taught a book repair workshop to library staff recently.

Motion: Lee Joyce made a motion to approve giving a \$75.00 honorarium to Diane Marshall; Lauren Saidel-Baker seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Tree Removal—Miriam Johnson spoke with the neighbor next door, who will be having a tree removed on Saturday. They also discussed the traffic on Meetinghouse Road. Miriam Johnson will discuss this with the Chief of Police.

Parking Lot Issues—Miriam Johnson shared that there have been several incidents in the parking lot with people parking or idling in places they shouldn't; she will discuss striping options with the Department of Public Works.

The next meetings will be held on Monday, September 14, 2026 at 3:30 p.m. in the Richmond Room; and Monday, October 19, 2026 at 3:30 p.m.; Monday, November 16, 2026 at 3:30 p.m.; and Monday, December 14, 2026 at 3:30; all in the Richmond Room. The meeting adjourned at 2:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Miriam Johnson
Library Director

Caitlin Loving
Assistant Director