

Washburn Memorial Library
Board Meeting Minutes

September 4, 2025

Present: Sarah Sines, Bev Turner, Cara Miller, Ed Jarrell, Donna Turner, Christina Maynard, Tiffany Wheeler, Laurie Blackstone

Ed Jarrell called the meeting to order at 4:21 PM.

Secretary's Report: Bev Turner moved to accept the secretary's report, seconded by Christina Maynard. The motion passed unanimously.

Financial Report: Donna was unable to prepare a financial report for this meeting. She will provide an update at the next board meeting.

The bathroom remodel cost approximately \$13,080. The Randall Fund is able to cover most of that cost, with a couple of hundred dollars potentially covered by the Thompson Fund.

Cara noted that the new insulation and fans have greatly improved bathroom privacy.

Library Director's Report: Cara provided the July and August stats.

July: 384 Checked in/ 385 Checked out/ 32 Renewed/ 20 In-House use

August: 320 Checked in/ 343 Checked out/ 36 Renewed/ 16 In-House use

The In-House numbers are when a patron reads a book while at the library but doesn't check it out.

The basket raffle held during the August Festival was a success, with a profit of \$1,343. Twenty baskets were donated from various businesses.

A variety of memorial books were donated to the library.

Wayne Kennard donated a piece of stained glass titled *The Last Dance*, in memory of his wife. The plan is to display it in the window near the stairway. He also donated two President Lincoln bookends.

The Teatime Book Club's September book is *The Book Club for Troublesome Women*, by Marie Bostwick.

The homeschool group and Toddler Time will be on hold until Courtney returns.

Courtney's summer reading group in July hosted 42 participants.

On September 11, the library will host a Paint Party Class. Debbie Henderson will teach an autumn-themed painting class at 5:00 PM. So far, three people have signed up. A minimum of 8 participants is needed.

September is Library Card Sign-Up Month. A table will be set up with coffee and cookies to invite new patrons to sign up for a library card.

There was discussion about what the money from the basket raffle could be spent on. In the past, money from such fundraising events has been spent on shelving and projects. There are no restrictions on how the funds are spent.

Cara applied for and received the AARP Age-Friendly Community Certification. There are benefits to being certificated as an age-friendly community. Cara will attend monthly Zoom meetings where ideas and resources can be shared. This certification will help with applying for future grants.

Cara would like to discuss the possibility of the library adopting a policy regarding age-appropriate materials for youngsters. The ALA advises that choosing age-appropriate materials for youngsters is a parental decision. The board will continue this discussion at the October meeting when Londa is present.

New Business: One high school junior is interested in joining the library board as a school liaison, with a second student possibly interested.

Volunteers are needed to cover occasional shifts at the library while Courtney is on maternity leave. A Google Doc is available for board members to sign up.

Password assistance is needed from Networkmaine to fully set up the Access Point. Cara has spoken with several people at Networkmaine, but progress has been slow.

The Rotary's annual Trunk or Treat event is scheduled for Saturday, October 25. Ed will host the library's trunk as a dinosaur. Board members are invited to join him at the event. Cara will prepare the candy in bags. Board members interested in donating candy may drop off their donations at the town office or at the library.

Ed informed the board that the town's digital sign is looking for a new home once the town office moves to its new location. A convenient spot for the sign is near the library. Several other spots have been discussed, but the strip of grass near the library seems to be the most convenient spot.

Reads to Share: Board members shared books they have recently read.

Next Meeting: The next meeting is scheduled for October 9, 2025, at 4:15 PM.

Adjournment: A motion to adjourn was made by Laurie Blackstone at 5:18 PM, and seconded by Christina Maynard. The motion carried.