

Washburn Memorial Library
Board Meeting Minutes
June 12, 2025

Present: Sarah Sines, Courtney Howe, Bev Turner, Cara Miller, Londa Brown, Ed Jarrell, Sue Brown, Donna Turner, Christina Maynard, Tiffany Wheeler, Laurie Blackstone

Ed Jarrell called the meeting to order at 4:15 PM.

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

Financial Report: Donna reported that the budget should be at 33.3% at this time of year. It is just a bit over that percentage because of the payment for technical support paid at the beginning of the year.

The Dues and Subscriptions account is over just a bit. A credit for a subscription refund hasn't been returned to that fund yet.

There is a bill for \$300 for Maine InfoNet.

The Memorial Books line is in the red, but everything else is in good order.

Donna may combine the Library Projects and Friends of the Library accounts.

Donna and Cara met and spoke about the library renovation needs. The grant Cara applied for was not awarded. Issues needing to be addressed include ceiling water damage, soundproofing and a handicap accessible toilet. Money from the Randall Fund could be used to fund the renovations.

Ed inquired whether a contractor would be hired or if town staff might be able to complete the work.

The plumbing needs to be completed by a licensed plumber. Josh Connolly, who has completed other town jobs, may be considered.

Donna recommended a full renovation of the upstairs bathroom rather than making piecemeal repairs.

Londa moved to proceed with obtaining the necessary contractors for the bathroom renovations using money from the Randall Fund, allowing Donna to choose and proceed with input from Cara and Courtney.

The project may be finished prior to August Festival.

The motion was seconded by Laurie and passed unanimously.

Library Director's Report: Cara reported on the circulation stats. Numbers are down over the past few months compared to 2024 stats. There are various possible reasons for this.

Cara spoke with the Agency on Aging about providing yoga classes at the Access Point so people in other locations, such as Fort Fairfield and Limestone, can participate remotely. A camera would be set up on Cara for participants to view.

August Festival Notes: Library board members were provided letters to mail to various businesses, soliciting baskets for the basket raffle.

The theme for the library board basket will be "Cozy Mysteries." Possible items for the basket could include blankets, hot cocoa, books, mugs, and candles.

A Google Doc will be created for board members to list their contributions.

The Books & Baskets raffle will begin August 1. All businesses should have donations at the library prior to August 1. The drawing will be held on August 16 at noon.

Thank you to Laurie for working on the flower beds. The seed library continues. The Teatime Bookclub book is *The Quiet Librarian*. Books & Brews continues on the second Monday of the month.

In August yoga will resume, with a partnership with the Agency on Aging. Game Day activities will pause for a while, although people are still able to visit the library to play cribbage.

A paint party is scheduled for June 26 at 5:30 PM. A minimum of 8 participants is required.

Children's Librarian Report: Courtney is planning a book fair in July with Usborne Books, now called PaperPie. Other possibilities for the book fair include Laura Hale and the mini therapy horse Freya.

Courtney is planning the summer reading project, Color Our World. She applied for and received a \$20,000 Stephen King grant, which she is hoping to use for the summer reading program. Potential purchases could include sewing machines, 3D printers, and professional cameras. July 9 is the tentative start date for the reading program.

Volunteers may be needed to help with participants. Meetings will be held every Wednesday at 10:00 for 2 hours.

A total of \$400 of the grant was allocated for an Access Point at the library.

Maintenance on flower beds:

June: Cara and Courtney

July: Donna

August: Ed

September: Sue

Donna currently has the Cole planter boxes at her house and will be working on them over the weekend.

Courtney thinks the lilies may have lily beetles.

New Business: Following Damien DuMont's graduation, the board will invite one or two new high school students to join as liaisons.

Bev moved to have Donna inquire about some high schoolers to consider, starting with NHS students. Sue seconded. The motion passed. The high-school liaisons will be invited to September's meeting. The September agenda could include discussions about how to involve the high school representatives.

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

Next Meeting: The next meeting is scheduled for September 11, 2025, at 4:15.

Adjournment: A motion to adjourn was made by Bev Turner at 5:04 PM, and seconded by Laurie Blackstone. The motion carried.

