

Washburn Memorial Library
Board Meeting Minutes

May 14, 2026

Present: Cara Miller, Londa Brown, Sarah Sines, Sue Brown, Donna Turner, Delaini Huston, Laura Churchill, Kathy McCarty, Ed Jarrell

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

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

Financial Report: Donna started working on the individual accounts this afternoon. The expense budget needs to be at 25% or less.

Donna recapped several of the budget lines, such as salary, heating, and supplies. Technical support is a bit high because it is paid February 1 to cover the full year.

Last week's power outage took out the WiFi, router, and access point. Reboot worked on the problem, resulting in a \$850 bill. Donna will pay for this out of the town's maintenance and improvement line. Donna will look into whether insurance will reimburse the town for this bill.

Reboot communicated with the Maine State Library during the repairs.

The new budget goes into effect February 1.

The increase in heating costs may just be due to higher costs rather than an increase in usage.

Library Director's Report: Cara gave an update on the April statistics. The name of the Teatime Bookclub has been changed to the Virtual Book Club, eliminating the idea that tea is involved.

Books & Brews continues meeting in person. The yoga series, a partnership with the Agency on Aging, has wrapped up. The program impacted around 50 participants and may continue again in the future.

The seed library is going well, with up to 20 families participating - mostly current patrons. There was a 10-packet max per household. The current seed supply is dwindling, with a possible replenishment in the near future.

Laini is planning to have a propagation library in the near future. She will prepare it this month and hold it for most of June. Donations of clippings are accepted. This has been popular in the past.

Laini is putting together information for a Cricut class. It will be advertised to the public. Wondering if 4:30 would be a good time to hold the class. Our teachers may be interested since the school does have at least 1 Cricut.

Donations for the past month seem to include items from patrons' spring cleanings.

A new Freida McFadden book has been released.

Children's Librarian Report: The monthly homeschool group has restarted with 8 students and 3 adults in attendance. It meets again May 21, 2026, when they will work on the raised gardens in the back of the library.

Storytime meets every Tuesday, with 25 kids and 12 adults in attendance in April.

Laini is working on filling in some missing books in several of the library's youth series. She also started displaying synopses of books around the library to catch young readers' eyes.

New Business: Cara and Ed looked at the flower beds and found the mulch held up well over winter. Laura will clean up the beds this month. Ed has extra mulch if needed.

Flower bed maintenance:

June: Sue

July: Laini

August: Ed

September: Donna will work on cleaning up the garden, with Adam's help.

The buckets will need to be planted. Maybe the homeschool group can also tackle this project. Donna will purchase the flowers for the buckets. Ed has extra dirt if needed.

There will be no specific August Festival basket theme. Donations for the library's basket may be brought in anytime. The basket raffle will be from the start of August until the Saturday of August Fest, the 3rd week of August.

At next month's meeting board members can work on getting the letters ready for mailing.

Since many of the August Fest activities are now held at the elementary school, the downtown traffic is much lighter. Perhaps raffle ticket sales can continue through the first half of the Star City Syndicate concert, which is held downtown.

Volunteers will be needed to staff the library on Saturday night.

Discussion about this will continue at the next meeting.

There will be no library board meetings in July and August.

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

The next meeting will be June 11, 2026, at 4:15 PM.

Motion to adjourn at 5:16 PM made by Sue and seconded by Londa.
Motion carried.