

Received 3/18/2026
10:22 AM Jodi Moore, ATC

DURHAM PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Meeting Minutes
March 10, 2026
7:30 P.M.

Attendees: Anne Doyle, Elizabeth Merliss, Lynn Johnson, Sarah Robertson, Robert Booz, Maya Liss, Eric Infeld, Anne Mueller, Lauren Redfield Director.

Absent: Gwen Wirger.

- I. Public Comments/Communications – Lynn Johnson noted was a positive comment on Instagram from a patron on the garden patio.
- II. Minutes
 - A. Monthly Meeting, February 10, 2026 – **Motion made by Bob Booz to approve the minutes seconded by Anne Doyle.** Approved unanimously with Anne Mueller abstaining since she was absent.
- III. Financial Reports
 - A. Board Managed Funds – Sarah Robertson reviewed the monthly report– quiet month as held off making some deposits/writing checks to move banks from Citizens to Liberty.
 - B. Library Operational Funds – Lauren reviewed monthly financial report. Question raised on the line item for electricity – lower than expected question on whether the EV charging station was working as expected – electric cost of the charging station is billed to the library’s account then is a pass through to the town. The credit from the company that manages the charging station does not come back to the library. Lauren will follow up with Town Hall. A question on the line item for water – it continues to run higher than expected – Lauren will follow up with Charlie.
- IV. Library Director’s Reports
 - A. Director –
 1. Lauren mentioned to the Board about LION budget fact sheet and U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO) report (part of meeting of Library Directors and Rosa DeLauro’s staff) forwarded to the Board – GAO report highlights that across the country many Library buildings and building systems are reported to be in poor condition, with increasing deferred maintenance.
 2. Lauren noted strong Hoopla use during snowy days as patrons turned to library resources from home.
 3. The new boiler project is being put out to bid again. Charlie expects the new boilers will be installed before the next heating season, so planned to be complete by September or October. When Lauren asked about impact to the lower-level activity rooms for Summer Reading, Charlie assured her that they could work around it.

4. New SMART board arrived and has been used it in several programs already. Works very well and the additional functionality has been greatly appreciated by staff and presenters alike.
5. A donation was made in honor of Helen McDonald – Lauren met with the coordinator of the donation. They agreed a Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) station that will consist of a new table that will hold several new STEM activities for children in the upper elementary grades will be purchased with the donation and will in the Children’s Room near the middle grade fiction
6. Lauren provided highlights from meeting with Rosa DeLauro’s staff.
7. Lauren reported that budget meeting went smoothly.
8. Planning underway for national library week.
9. Eric asked about paving driveway and parking lot – which has been delayed/deferred – Lauren to follow-up with Charlie – Bob asked about painting of pillars around book drop which Lauren will also follow-up on.

B. Other

V. Old Business – none.

VI. New Business

A. Policies – Anne Doyle reviewed two policies which committee had reviewed and updated.

1. Unattended Children Policy – Proposed changes reviewed; Bob **Booz made a motion to approve the Unattended Children’s Policy as updated by the committee. Anne Mueller seconded.** Approved unanimously.
2. Appendix 6C SEVERE WEATHER CONDITIONS PROCEDURES – Proposed changes reviewed. **Sarah Robertson made a motion to approve Appendix 6C Severe Weather Conditions Procedures as updated by the committee. Anne Mueller seconded.** Approved unanimously.

B. Board Binder Update – Updated portions of Board and Trustee Binders distributed.

VII. General Discussion

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 PM.

Eric J. Infeld

Secretary