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8:45 AM Jodi Moore, ATC

## DURHAM PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

### Meeting Minutes

April 14, 2026

7:30 P.M.

**Attendees:** Anne Doyle, Elizabeth Merliss, Gwen Wirger, Sarah Robertson, Robert Booz, Maya Liss (partial via speakerphone), Anne Mueller, Lauren Redfield  
Director.

**Absent:** Lynn Johnson, Eric Infeld.

I. Public Comments/Communication – Lauren shared a thank you note to the board from Laura for flowers

II. Old Business -none

III. Minutes - all approved with one abstention from Gwen Wirger

IV. New business

A. Charter Revision

Last week Bob Booze and Mya Liss attended a meeting which addressed changes the Town of Durham Charter Committee would like to make regarding the library. Al Divencentis from the charter commission was invited by the board to address these issues. It was a spirited discussion. According to Al, everything is in preliminary and draft form at the moment. He said the town is focusing on two major issues with the library.

a. All town buildings must follow closings or shortened hours if mandated by the town.

b. The town shall have control of any changes made to building and grounds.

Concerns were discussed as to what the board is able to execute and what the town feels they should execute. Also the board would like to have clearer language in the charter and would like to read and discuss what will be in the charter regarding the library before it goes out for a vote. Board members are encouraged to attend Charter revisions on Wednesday evenings.

## V. Financial Reports

A. Board Managed Funds – Sarah Robertson said information was not available because it was being moved from Citizens to Liberty. She will provide information ASAP.

B. Library Operational Funds –Everything is status quo

## VI . Library Director's Reports

### A. Director –

1. Lauren mentioned that CLA is offering a program to Connecticut libraries that helps create strategic plans. The program has been around for 5 years and in that time CLA has been successful in helping the libraries with the process. Lauren will have to apply before any next steps but the board was fully supportive with Anne Mueller making a motion to have Lauren fill out the application and Anne Doyle second it.
2. Children's circulation is down which makes sense as our circ statistic includes both new checkouts and renewals. With the Children's Room being closed and the majority of the collection having been in storage this was not unexpected.
3. The toilet was running again but repairs were made and hopefully this will reduce the water bill.
4. Big picture window was leaking but it's been temporarily fixed by Charlie
5. A toddler accidentally pulled the fire alarm but the situation turned into a delight as the firemen let the children meet them and check out the firetrucks.
6. The website needs to be upgraded to be ADA compliant. Lauren got two quotes. One for \$15,000 and one for \$10,000. She's leaning towards the \$10,000 proposal which includes the ADA compliance format, is mobile friendly and easily navigable. The board suggested that Lauren have the

vendor break down the cost so that the town pays for the state mandated ADA portion and the board uses funds to pay the balance.

7. Lauren is still looking for other vendors to purchase books from now that Baker and Taylor are no longer an option.
8. The Lions Club donated \$400 which Lauren would like to use to purchase Jase reading buddies for the summer reading program.

#### VII. General Discussion

Meeting adjourned at 9:35 PM.

Anne Doyle