

Received 7/29/26

12:08 PM Jodi Moore, ATC

Durham Public Library Board of Trustees Meeting

July 14, 2026

7:30 PM

Attendees: Anne Mueller, Ann Doyle, Gwen Wirger, Maya Liss, Eric Infeld, Lynn Johnson, Sarah Robertson, Elizabeth Merliss, Lauren Redfield, Director

Absent: Bob Booz

Other: Katie Reddick, PALS

- I. Public Comments/Communications – Katie here to request we allow the garden party on the garden patio for volunteers. Also thanks to Board for work done on charter revision. No other public comment
- II. Minutes
  - a. Monthly Meeting, June 9, 2026 – **Motion to accept the minutes with minor revision by Anne Doyle seconded by Gwen Wirger.** Approved unanimously.
  - b. Special Meeting, May 28, 2026 **Motion to accept the minutes with minor revision by Lynne Johnson. Anne Doyle seconded.** Approved unanimously.
- III. Financial Reports
  - a. Board Managed Funds – small amount of income from interest, bank statements are being mailed to the library so reporting is available on a timely basis.
  - b. Library Operational Funds – end of fiscal year – spending down end of fund. Water seems to be in line with what would expected
- IV. Library Director's Report -June was a strong month for the library, with total circulation increasing 4% and gate count rising 7% over last year. Growth was driven by children's, young adult, and digital collections, while program attendance increased 11%, led by strong participation in youth programs. Staff responded quickly to several facility issues, including an unexpected electrical outage, a strong sewer smell, elevator door repair, and investigation of issues with alarm system, while continuing progress on major projects such as the boiler replacement and the near completion of the SHPO grant. The library also strengthened community partnerships through contributions to the America 250 time capsule, participation in a new community calendar initiative, and collaboration with local organizations, continuing to participate in regional library collaboration through LION.

V. New Business

- a. PALS request to use library August 21, 2026 for Garden Party – **Sarah Robertson made a motion to approve use of the library for the garden party and Gwen Wirger seconded.** Approved unanimously. Maya Liss to follow-up with Katie Reddick to see if insurance is needed
- b. Board Managed Funds Policy - continued discussion from prior meeting. Feeling to the Board is that the finance committee to present investment guidelines to the Board, then Policy committee can review the current policy based on the investment guidelines to decide what changes are needed.
- c. Future meeting times – request brought to the board to move meetings to 7PM so ore in line with Library hours; Since the schedule of meetings has already been publicly published Maya will follow-up with town clerk to see what needs to be done to change the times and stay in compliance with Freedom of Information.
- d. Strategic Plan –
  - i. Current Strategic Plan - Lauren provided update of what has been accomplished and plans looking to the rest of 2026 –
  - ii. Next Strategic Plan - kickoff of planning is next week, then will move to cohort teams – CT Library consortium looking for four people to go to meetings starting in Aug – Jan – Two reps from the library staff (Lauren and Julie) and two representatives from the Board – Maya and Lynne J. Will be the Board representatives. Expect there to be a monthly update to the Board on progress on updated strategic plan

VI. Old Business - Town Charter – update on public hearing Board of Selectman.

- VII. Executive Session - personnel matters - **Sarah Robertson moved to go into executive session for personnel matters Gwen Wirger seconded. Approved unanimously. Board went into executive session at 8:24 PM. Anne Doyle moved to leave Executive session and return to regular meeting. Seconded by Sarah Robertson. Approved unanimously.** Moved out of executive session at 8:30 PM

VIII. General Discussion - none

Meeting adjourned at 8:32 PM

Eric Infeld

Secretary