



Thomaston Public Library
Library Board of Trustees
Tuesday, February 3, 2026
Thomaston Public Library

Attendance: Debbie April, Michelle Brady, Joe Calabro, Jen Delaney, Melanie Dobos, Patrick Hyres, Barbara Lee, Allyn Manning, Phyllis Nardella, Kathleen Reynolds, Kate Sileo, Katherine Turner

Also in attendance: Amy Schumann

Call to order: 6:01 pm

Approval of minutes: Motion to approve amended minutes by Patrick, second by Kathleen

Communications: none

Public Comment: none

Directors Report: Motion to accept by Michelle, second by Debbie. Cameron is our new Library Assistant for Adult programming and is full time. Jenna is our new evening part timer. Joe Ouellette walked a potential new cleaning crew through the library for a quote. We may have a shared service situation with the town hall building. All in favor.

Treasurer's Report: Reviewed motion to accept by Michelle, second by Joe

Committee Reports:

Steering: Investments reviewed. A motion was made to move the money (currently in a money market at TSB) to a different money market account managed by Alyson Zibell (Osaic) at TSB. Motion made by Kathleen Reynolds, second by Patrick. All in favor.

Maintenance: We can use the town's dumpster if necessary. Joe has promised us that the baseboards will be repaired soon. We will also be getting some repaired windows here at the library along with the town hall's project. We also will submit some capital improvement projects to the town. These will include the children's entrance, as well as remortaring of some of the outside of the Laura Andrews building and repainting of the Laura Andrews outside woodwork.

Budget: none

Personnel: Minutes reviewed from the meeting today. A motion was made to allow the employees to use their comp time by December 31, 2026. Motion made by Phyllis and seconded by Debbie. No further hours will be accrued after Presidents Day, February 16, 2026. All in favor.

Bylaws: none

Long-range planning: Minutes from meeting reviewed. Amy will send out a list of who will be on the committees and take any other suggestions from the board.

Old Business: none

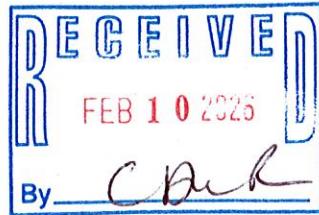
New Business: An ad hoc committee was created to collect data to support the budget. One suggestion is to start with a door counter. The data currently requested by the town is circulation statistics and items in collection. CT State library does collect detailed data from libraries, and it is made public. Door counters can be placed on the three doors to count attendance to the tune of \$600. A data collection sheet was recently started and will be managed by the staff to collect additional details.

A motion was made to purchase three “people counter” devices for the three doors not to exceed \$1000. Motion by Michelle, and second by Barbara. Eleven in favor, one opposed.

Melanie reached out to a design company that has a designated library design position. Pictures have been sent to the company and we will await information. Friends of the Library met last night and are asking to take over all fund raising events moving forward and receive the money. Motion by Phyllis, Michelle seconded. Nine yesses, three abstained. We need to discuss out how to cover the deficit that will be created once we move the monies over. This should be addressed at a future meeting.

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn by Patrick, second by Phyllis 7:15 PM

Respectfully submitted, Kate Sileo, secretary



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Committee: Personnel

Date: February 3, 2026, 5:00 PM

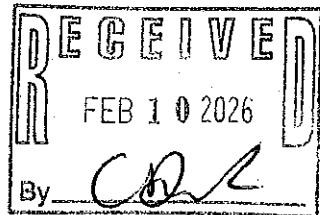
Action Items in Progress: Staff currently has accrued comp time. The board needs to decide how to proceed. A suggestion discussed was to make a motion to allow employees with accrued time to spend that time up until December 31, 2026. Any remaining unused time will be relinquished. Hours as follows; Amy 53, Nadia 12, Melissa 95, Beth 26

Budget Requirements: none

Action Items Complete: Amy will ask employees to submit their hours ASAP, and the hours will not be staffed by other current employees.

Recommendations to the Board: A motion to be filed regarding this issue. Personnel policies need to be reviewed again.

Questions for the Board: shall we align more of the policies with the town policies such as no carrying over of vacation time, no exceeding work week hours with compensation hours



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Committee: Long Range Committee

Date: 1/31/2026

In Attendance: Debbie April, Joe Calabro, Amy Schuman

Action Items In Progress:

- Email Library Survey to mailing list regarding the Strategic Planning Proposal (Last Chance)
- Clocktown Chronicle
- Need more input and statistics from 20-29 and 30-59 demographic
- Phone Interviews continue
- In search of names for participation in Community Advisory Council

12-15 List. J

Budget Requirements if applicable:

N/A

Action Items Complete:

None

Budget Requirements if applicable:

N/A

Recommendations to the Board:

- Provide names to participate in Library Survey and Community Advisory Council

Questions for the Board:

N/A

*My Town
Meals*



Library Board Steering Committee report

Jan 21 2026

In attendance: Amy Schumann,

Melanie Dobos, Barbara Lee, Alyson Zibell(TSB)

Action: Update with the bank was given for the current investments and the Laura Andrews Gift. Currently liquid cash there is \$27,000. The bequest is at \$119,216.48. With dividends to be dropping again in September in the approximate amount of \$114,000.00 Laura Andrews is in a Money Market Account at TSB in the amount of \$423,00.

Motion Recommended: The Laura Andrews Money Market Account to be transferred to Alyson Zibell with Osaic at Thomaston Savings bank to a Money Market account to be managed by Ms. Zibell until further action from the Library Board.