

APPROVED

Barnet Public Library Board of Trustees Meeting

November 13, 2025

Meeting was called to order at 7:04 pm.

In Attendance:

Linda Cochrane, Hillary Cohen, Dylan Ford, Rachel Kittredge, Becca Pedersen, Debra Streeter, Jackie Verley, and Sue Wood.

Agenda:

No deletions to the agenda.

Additions:

- Debra Streeter proposed starting a book club to meet monthly at the library, coordinated by Dylan. She also brought up the idea of a quiet reading hour at the library – patrons come and enjoy reading their choice of book in the company of other readers.
- Rachel Kittredge raised concerns regarding a letter she had received from the library board. The letter was sent in response to dog nuisance reports the board had received. Discussion ensued.

Board Meeting Minutes:

October minutes were reviewed and approved.

Board Chair Report:

None

Treasurer's Report:

- The town clerk did not provide a report, so there was no treasurer's report. Dylan reported that people have been buying the Barnet History books, and that annual appeal money has been coming in, currently \$675. We've also received a \$3500 donation from the Roberts.

Librarian's Report:

- We received the Vermont Humanities Grant! Dylan is working to create a schedule of the classes offered through the grant.
- Trunk or Treat was a success, with both new and returning trunks. The PTF got involved this year with both decorations and food, which was fantastic and made it more of an event.
- Ira has been working a little more on Tuesdays with Dylan to accommodate the after school kids.

- Next Tuesday will be Tech Storm – SJA robotics students will be at the library running STEM stations for a variety of ages.
- There was a full house last Sunday, people were both playing games and just using the library.
- Dylan went to the library director’s summit last week. One of the topics was emergency preparedness – something that the board may want to visit and develop protocols around. While at the summit Dylan talked with the Groton librarian about potentially working together to have RCT pick up people in Groton, Peacham, and Barnet and bring them to St J for fun activities (restaurants, events at Catamount Arts, etc.)

Art at the Library Update:

- There was a good turn out for David Feurzieg’s “Play Every Town VT” concert. Other local towns are also interested in hosting him for a concert.
- December 9th 6:30-8:00 will be the wreath making class with Annette, participants will be capped at 12. There are six people already signed up.
- Laura Goldberg would like to do a knitting group, potentially on Sunday afternoons.
- Susan Chandler and the Barnet Historical Society would like to collaborate on “Aging Textiles Part 2.”
- Terry Fairchild is willing to teach a coiled bowl class.

Monthly Tasks:

- a. Review Board Calendar
 - We reviewed the calendar, and added two policies to develop.
- b. 2026 Library Budget Draft
 - We reviewed the budget draft, and made several changes.

New Business:

None

Old/Continuing Business:

- a. Smithsonian Exhibit
 - The exhibit will be here mid-July to August. Dylan is starting to have monthly meetings with the other Smithsonian organizers.
- b. Vermont Humanities Project Grant
 - Discussed above in Librarian’s report.
- c. Internet provider
 - The internet booster on the porch allowing patrons internet access from the parking lot was provided as part of a Covid program. The program has been discontinued, and will be ending Nov 16. Dylan looked into adding this feature to our Consolidated agreement, and it would be significantly more expensive. She explored Spectrum prices, and they would provide faster internet and a booster for a lower cost than internet service without the booster from Consolidated. Motion

was made to switch internet and phone service from Consolidated to Spectrum. Motion carried.

- d. Gifts Policy Updates
 - None
- e. T shirt fundraiser
 - Allison Vernon made a linocut of the library, which could be used on the t-shirts.
- f. Library railing
 - None

Executive Session:

Motion made to enter executive session for staff salaries 2026 at 8:39pm.

Motion made to exit executive session for staff salaries 2026 at 8:44 pm.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:44 pm.

Next Meeting will be on January 8, 2026 at 7:00pm. Meetings are held on the second Thursday of every month, with the exceptions of December and July.

Respectfully submitted,

Hillary Cohen, Secretary