DRAFT

Barnet Public Library Board of Trustees Meeting

November 5th, 2026

Meeting was called to order at 7:02 pm.

In Attendance:
Linda Cochrane, Hillary Cohen, Dylan Ford, Becca Pedersen, Ben St. James, and Jackie Verley.

Agenda:
No additions or deletions to the agenda.

Board Meeting Minutes:
October minutes were reviewed and approved.

Board Chair Report:
None.

Treasurer's Report:
The treasurer distributed copies of this month's budget, discussion ensued. The treasurer's report was approved.

Librarian's Report:

- We received the project grant for '26-'27, which will be heavily guided by feedback from patrons regarding the '25-'26 grant.
    - It will include 16 weeks of chair yoga, which has been very popular.
    - Emma Ricci will do a spring ephemerals walk as well as a two part series on medicinal herbs in your back yard.
    - Holly Raymond will come speak about the drawing style used in Charity and Sylvia – this will be a collaboration with the Peacham library.
    - The Share Fair will be a large part of the grant, where experts in a wide variety of skills will gather and share what skills they have, as well as their contact info. There will be a middle school/homeschool advisory group as well as food trucks. Organizations wanting volunteers will be there as well. It will be on a Sunday in early June, on the soccer field at the Barnet School.
- Summer Reading theme is "Mysteries Await at your Library." Ideas include an escape room at the library, puzzle challenges, mystery movie night, etc.
- Dylan will put together another brochure with activities at the library in 2027.
- There is a new homeschool group meeting at the library on Thursday mornings.
- Dylan went to a M.T. Anderson talk about his new book Stealing Saint Nick and asked him if he would do a book talk at the library, and he said he would. She has

reached out for a date, and hopefully he'll be able to come speak later in December.
- Dylan has noticed a lack of middle school patrons, and is considering buying a Switch for the library and hosting a few Friday "Switch and Pizza" nights to draw that age group in. Once the kids are in the library, they often check out books (especially graphic novels).

Art at the Library Update:
- Fiber Friends at the Library has been going well. Participants have worked on a variety of projects from knitting to tapestry work.
- Tuesday November 24rd from 6:30-8:30 will be wreath making with Annette.
- Becky Boardman will do a paper book making class in February.
- Sherri Schenk will also teach a class late winter.
- January will be Linda's last board meeting.

Monthly Tasks:
a. Edward Jones Review
    a. No new information, we can review the report when the board meets in January.
b. 2027 Board Calendar
    a. No edits
c. 2027 Budget
    a. Discussion ensued regarding budgeting as well as spreadsheet formatting.
d. Annual Appeal
    a. Letters have been completed and will be mailed out.

New Business:
None.

Old/Continuing Business:
a. New Banner
    a. Jackie talked to Sign Depot and learned that they charge $6/ft^2 for banners. The new banner will be 6' long so as to fit on a 6' table. Money for the banner will come from the special events budget line. Motion made to spend up to $150 for a new banner, motion carried.
b. Assistant Librarian Hiring
    a. Dylan has gotten 17 inquiries and 5 resumes since Halloween, and there are some very promising candidates.
c. Barnet Public Library and Barnet Historical Society Partnership
    a. Motion was made to add the Memorandum of Understanding with the Barnet Historical Society to our policies. Motion passed.
d. Emergency Response Plan
    a. No updates.

Executive Session(s) Anticipated:

a. Consideration of, and take any action on Budget and Salaries (executive session anticipated pursuant to 1 V.S.A 313 (a)(3)).

Motion made to enter executive session for consideration of, and to take any action on budget and salaries at 8:30 pm. Motion carried.

Motion made to exit executive session for consideration of, and to take any action on budget and salaries at 9:47 pm. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:48 pm.

Next Meeting will be on December 10th, 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