

## Trustees of the Shutesbury Public Library

April 27, 2026, 7:30 pm

### Minutes

Members Present: Elizabeth Murphy, Pam Ososky, Michele Regan-Ladd, Kate Cell  
Mary Anne Antonellis: Library Director

Review March, 2025 meeting minutes

Minutes for January 26th meeting approved, Elizabeth Murphy- Yes, Michele  
Regan-Ladd- Yes, Kate Cell- Yes, Pam Ososky- Yes

### Library Update

- Since opening circulation increased by 75%  
10, 500 now, same time last year 6,000
- More adults who previously hadn't had library cards. People picking up holds here that had never been seen at the old library
- Still a lot of room for growth in the children's room and Teen's as well as adult room.
- Final construction grant will be due on Thursday, Mary Anne is working on that
- MVP grant for solar panels- had to be rewritten 4 times
- Mary Anne will be giving a rundown of information for Town Hall including program statistics, library card numbers etc
- Kate is wondering if we want to do a follow up story for the newspaper to show our success. Maybe at 6 month - 1 year anniversary
- Mary Anne notes we will have a 1 year anniversary party and will consider doing press release earlier after grants are in
- Community meeting room insurance was recommended by Town and Town Counsel, though It will be burdensome. Mary Anne called her own insurance, it is possible with prices from 175-300, and feels discouraging.
- Pelham Library requires it for after hours but during the day they don't need it.
- Libraries in Amherst do not require insurance. They have a tax base we don't- the risk is not the same
- Having events during open times could be disruptive.
- A community group using the library during library hours, if anyone can participate is ok. Public use verses private use, and education vs entertainment
- Michele questions whether volunteers need to be CORI checked, as volunteers at schools do.

- Mary Anne will ask someone who has gotten insurance for a party to find out how that worked
- Kate makes a motion to insert the insurance liability requirement from Town Counsel into the Meeting Room Policy And Procedures Document. Michel seconded. Pam Ososky- Yes, Kate Cell- Yes, Michele Regan-Ladd-Yes, Elizabeth Murphy- No, she hesitates because it limits accessibility. The motion passes.
- We should reopen the vote when more trustees are here. We can see how the community responds, check back in a year.
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Mary Anne was nominated for Lemony Snicket and won! Going to Chicago and needing \$315. (half the cost) dollars to go. The conference covers the other half. The hotel is \$950.

Kate makes a motion that trustees release \$1400. for travel reimbursement so Mary Anne can attend the 2026 ALA Conference. Pam Seconds the motion. Michele Regan Ladd- Yes, Elizabeth Murphy- Yes, Kate Cell- Yes, Pam Ososky- Yes.

Next meeting Date: 5-18-2026 at 7:30

Kate will do a check with others if the date works.

Minutes respectfully submitted,  
Pam Ososky  
Trustee, Shutesbury Public Library