

DURHAM PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES MINUTES

OCTOBER 14,2025

7:30 PM

Attendees: Lynn Johnson, Robert Booz, Sarah Robertson, Maya Liss, Elizabeth Merliss, Gwen Wirger, Lauren Redfield Director.

Absent: Anne Doyle, Anne Mueller, Eric Infeld.

I. Public Comments/Communication: None.

II. Minutes: Motion by R. Booz / Second by M. Liss “To accept 09/09/2025 minutes with name correction.” Approved unanimously.

III. Financial Reports:

A: Board Managed Funds: Report sent by A. Mueller.

B: Library Operational Funds L. Redfield reviewed statistics.

IV. Library Director’s Report: L. Redfield reported that circulation was down, but gate count and computer use was up. More programs were offered, with attendance up. The Board of Finance approved monies for painting and carpet in the Children’s area, with a start date of December 1, 2025. Patrons’ comments have been positive regarding the patio upgrade. The new Building Management System is not accessible by the library. Facility Manager Charlie Bedo will be sending IT personnel to look at it. Important since the library’s working hours are different than Town Hall. After an alarm went off recently, there was a discussion with the State Trooper regarding lack of cameras in the old library stairwell and the lower-level rooms. That is where people can enter/hide without being seen. L. Redfield will look at pursuing different camera systems. Baker and Taylor are going out of business. Exploring different book buying options. L. Redfield is pursuing options for refunds for “Lucky Book” payments made but not used.

V. Old Business:

A: L. Redfield discussed the Smart Board demo for the large board that will replace the downstairs board. Monies are in the capital budget. Looked at a small Smart Board for the periodical room that can be used for newspaper reading and programs. Discussion regarding smart board vs tablet vs iPad.

The news service will be changed from the physical Hartford Courant to Newsbank – a digital service with more papers available. There is a

\$1000 difference between services with the Hartford Courant being more expensive. Rather than buying a Smart Board to start, L. Redfield will try using tablets we have now to start the service. The library will advertise this new service and explore with Youth Services Smart Board for programming use.

VI. New Business:

A: Nominating Committee: Anne Doyle.

B: Finance Committee Report: R. Booz presented report to Board.

C: Policy Review and Vote: Requested by State of Connecticut Library

- 1. Collection Development Policy: Motion by R. Booz/S. Robertson to “Accept the policy as presented to the Board” Approved Unanimously.**
- 2. Library Display Policy: Motion by S. Robertson/R. Booz to “Accept the Policy as presented to the Board” Approved Unanimously.**
- 3. Programming Policy: Motion by S. Robertson/L. Johnson to “Accept the Policy as presented to the Board.” Approved Unanimously.**
- 4. Library material Review and Reconsideration Policy: Motion by R. Booz/ L. Johnson to “Accept the Policy as presented to the Board.” Approved Unanimously.**
- 5. Appendix II to Library Policies: Motion by R. Booz/S. Robertson to “Accept Appendix II as presented to the Board.” Approved Unanimously.**
- 6. Appendix I to Library Policies-Library Bill of Rights: Motion by S. Robertson/R. Booz to “Accept Appendix I as presented to the Board.: Approved Unanimously.**
- 7. Exhibit Space Policy-Vote to Delete: Motion by G. Wirger/R. Booz to “Delete Exhibit Space Policy as presented to the Board.” Approved Unanimously**

General Discussion:

Compliments to L. Redfield and J. Rio for their work with America 250. J. Rio will give a presentation to the Committee in November. Also, for their collaboration with District 13.

Meeting adjourned at 8:46 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn A Johnson

Vice Chairman