

BOARD OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, MARCH 9, 2026, 7:00 P.M.– TRUSTEES ROOM
MILTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

Attendees: Will Adamczyk, Sean Bentley (arrived late), Hyacinth Crichlow, Susan Doyle, John Folcarelli,

Paul Hays, Jaime Levash, Kris Hodlin, Sindu Meier, James Potter, Chair.
All Present.

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. CITIZEN'S SPEAK- ELLIE FISHER AND MARK JOHNSON IN ATTENDANCE- RUNNING FOR LIBRARY TRUSTEE OFFICE

3. SECRETARY'S REPORT

- APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES FROM JANUARY 12, 2026- MOVED BY JF AND SECONDED BY HC-ALL IN FAVOR - UNANIMOUS

4. Report of Building Committee

- Parking update – Feasibility Study- good showing , in put 65 responses.
- Need to finalize RFP for submission to Select Board
- Planning next public forum. Will also have a web page that is a “living document “ to receive feedback. Priority for library is parking, traffic study report and need for a forester to look at the conditions of the trees that will be affected.
- Overrides and debt exclusion: Need to contend with anti tax sentiments, new fire house and school construction and construction of a new library parking lot.

5. Report of Nominating Committee-will be ready in April.

6. Report of Finance Committee

- Discussion/Action: Budget for FY27- town gov't. budget about the same, no reductions at all, level funded budget.
- Custodian discussion- has been on going for the past 5 years. Talked with Consolidated Facilities Director for financial support, as well as, using monies from library budget. Also, discussion of sharing a custodian with the Milton Senior Center.
- Discussion/Action: Capital requests- Recommendation to ask select board for \$200,000 in building improvement .
- Generator is arriving this year.

7. Report of the Personnel Committee

- Survey – early results- Metrics toward goals-Will, and parking survey - community survey and feedback staff surveys from staff concerning Will. Were excellent. Final survey rec. in the summer – Will More responders this year.
- Director mid-year evaluation update- Will is doing excellent work

8. Report of the Equity Committee

- Planning for 2026 event – SEPT 10 OPEN HOUSE – STARTING preparation – zoom on April 14, 2026.

Continuing Business

9. Library Director's Report

- Staffing –all positions filled
- FY26 Budget Update

State House Update –increase in book bans over the year, E-Book use increasing, and State Library Directors advocate for Freedom to Read Program.

House deliberates budget this week. A 2% increase in State Aid based upon use and the advocating for more state aid by Library Directors.

- Action to be taken on Neponset Valley Land Acknowledgement
- Will is taking a course in Procurement which will enhance his business skills for the process of product procurement for the Library.
- OCLN committee update –training and installation of new library system in progress throughout OCLN libraries.

Among other things the new system will also work more efficiently with the Libby and Hoopla Apps. For the next 2-3 weeks materials will not be available to check out while system is being updated.

Annual Town Report submissions

10. Communications & next steps with library partners

- Letter for Spring appeal from the Library Foundation will go out between the Friends of the MPL sponsored speaker Matt Barnett on March 28th and the MPL Foundations sponsored guest speaker Colm Tobin at Milton HS, April 15th.

11. Strategic Plan discussion

- Next step -appointment and charge of Steering Committee

12. **Other** -Writer in Residence Program is going great. Programs have included: Ghost Writer and Genre workshops. The Voight Family will be opening an account in the Bartholomew Fund to enhance stipend for y Writer-In-Residence Program.

- Friends of the MPL annual meeting coming up in April. Also, a fundraiser, Mystery Play and Tea will be held the end of April.
- Strategic Plan to MA Bd of Commissioners- needed by March 2027.
- Comm. Hub - Excellent service, excellent programming for public, focus groups and further surveying. Have also asked for feedback from Teen Advisory Board. Tyler is Library's Teen Staff Member.

New Business

13. Donation Policy Review- Donations - all works, i.e. art, financial or naming associated with certain donations are at Trustees discretion. Set up gifts through Trust Funds.

14. ACTION – Appropriate Use Policy – Review, Additions, Changes – Library Behavior Policy -reviewed in 2024 – Section 3, #26 – guests get one warning then asked to leave premises. To protect staff – add to Appropriate Use Policy : A part of our policy is to not have library guests asking strangers to use their phone, or asking strangers for Rides. Also, not leaving the library at prescribed closing time will have consequences.

Moved by HC and seconded by PH- all approved.

15. ACTION – Staff conference request- ANLC in Chicago – Chris and Sara \$4,000 for conferences. Moved CH, seconded JL- all approved

16. ACTION – Town Meeting Article- Solar Leasing on Library Property– Trustees of Library have final say to lease solar panels through the Town. Motion to support PH, seconded by JF and approved by all.

FUTURE MEETINGS

17. Future Meetings: April (committees); May 11, 2026

18. Items for future meetings

- May – Finance, Strategic Plan

Adjourn

- Motion to adjourn by HC, seconded by JL, unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Doyle

Secretary

I have found the most valuable thing in my wallet is my library card.

Laura Bush