

Pawlet Public Library
Meeting of Board of Trustees

MINUTES

July 1, 2025

Present: Trustees in attendance: Lauren Herbert, Grace Larson, Cori Rail, Sue LaPorte

Members of the public present: Linda Lynton, Adelle Santwire, Linda Welch, Janine Seitz, Lucy Norman, Nina DuBois, Jed Rubin, Joanne Van Meter, Gordon Dossett, PEGTV

6:04 Call to order

- Sue reads Operating Norms.
- Agenda –
 - o Cori asks to delete items 13 & 14 – there is no meeting with an attorney. This item will be on the agenda in case we need it for the foreseeable future.
 - o Delete item 11 since Joni isn't here.
 - o Sue motions to approve the agenda as amended, Grace seconds, motion carries.
- Open Meeting law changes:
 - o Posted agendas need to be detailed, a vote is needed to exit executive session, and security is an added reason to enter executive session.
- Public comment: None.
- Secretary's report:
 - o Nothing to report.
 - o Lauren motions to accept the June 3rd and 9th minutes, Sue seconds, motion carries.
- Treasurer's report:
 - o Sue motions to approve current warrant, Grace seconds, motion carries.
 - o FY 2025 budget came in with a surplus.
 - o Lauren – we should periodically review where we are spending.
 - o Linda Lynton – believes the library should charge non-citizens of Pawlet for use of the library.
 - o Expense reimbursement:
 - Sue nominates Lauren to be the point person for staff or Board members who have a question about a bill that needs to be paid out of pocket. Cori seconds, motion carries.
- Library report to the Board:
 - o Adelle goes over statistics, programs, etc.
 - Tech time is over until October.
 - Robotics class – budget has been cut significantly due in part to donations. 11 students have signed up. The course will run again in October.
 - There is an AARP fraud watch program upcoming.
 - o A collection of Gladys Tabor books has been donated to the library.
 - o Cori – proposals for programs should be in spreadsheet form for more straightforward budgeting.
 - o Nina – Press release for book sale has been distributed, and a Facebook advertisement has been distributed over a 75-mile radius.
- Booksale (July 26-27):
 - o Volunteers have sorted about 400 books so far.
 - o Lauren has 3 large water jugs to donate, she will drop them off at the library.

- Lucy Norman has procured frames for illustrations from otherwise unsaleable books, including some by Arthur Rackham and Norman Rockwell.
- Signs – dates on the banners need to be changed, Grace will get this done. We need volunteers to put up signs (including a truck to transport them). Grace will coordinate once we know when the banners will be ready. We should also contact Huletts to make sure we can put them in the same spot.
- Nina will publicize need for volunteers – for Wednesday moving books at 5pm, Thursday setting up books at 9am, and Sunday moving books at 3pm.
- Nina will also publicize need for donations for the bake sale, to be dropped off at the school 8:30am Saturday.
- Grace will check with school custodians about moving tables (30-35) from the library to the school on Tuesday.
- Grace will send a sign-up sheet for food etc. to the Board.
- We will go over and approve expenses in the August meeting.
- Donation of paintings:
 - Cori talked with Merrill Bent about this, we need a letter of ownership so the donation is formal – email is fine.
 - Joanne asks if the library should keep one since it's a local artist.
 - Lauren motions that Sue get in touch with Carlos, using language given to Cori by the lawyer.
- Hiring new Director:
 - Position has not been advertised. We will change the deadline to August 11, for both the Director position and for the members of the public for the hiring committee. Nina will get these out.
 - Grace will distribute resumes to the Board as they come in.
- Library report to Select Board:
 - Adelle is going to bring in an air purifier to address the musty smell in the basement – hopefully that will work and we won't have to do anything to the building.
 - Cori has spoken to them about exterior paint and broken windows.
 - Update on budget and hiring.
- Reflection on Operating Norms.
- Public Comment:
 - Joanne – comments that this was a well-run meeting.
- Lauren motions to adjourn, Sue seconds, motion carries.

7:38 Meeting adjourned.

Next regular meeting: August 12, 2025, **6:00 pm** at the Pawlet Library.

Dated July 3rd, 2025, Grace Larson, Secretary