

Pawlet Public Library, 141 School St, Pawlet, Vt

Regular Board of Trustees Meeting , May 5, 2026 7 pm

Attending: Cori Rail, Lauren Herbert, Phoebe McChesney, Amy Miller. Susan LaPorte by phone . Audience- Ann Marie Witt. Filmed by PEG TV- William.

Call to Order by Cori 6:02pm

Operating Norms read by Cori

Addition of agenda items:-Cori- Discuss next steps- between#11 and #12,Lauren- Discuss Magazines at#8, Amy-Background checks during Library Report, Ann Marie will speak during Library Report. Motion by Lauren ,Second by Phoebe- Passed. Accepted.

Public Comment: None

Board Work Plan: Cori is working on it. Adapted from Stowe Library. She will share with policies inserted.

Board Retreat :Lauren mentioned that we have Andy Robinson's book available to read before the next meeting. At the retreat we can review Mission, Vision, Strategic plan. Invite the public. Discuss making the library more appealing to prospective directors. Scheduling retreat for a Friday looks like the best day of the week for all of us.

Rules of Procedure: nothing new to report today.

Approval of April 7,2026 Minutes: Motion by Lauren. Second by Amy. Passed. Accepted.

Treasurers Report: Approve and Sign Warrant Motion by Motion by Sue. Second by Phoebe. Passed. Accepted.

Discussion of Quarterly Budget/Update: Budget for buying books: \$1,500 per year for Children's books, \$2,750 per year for Adult books. Heidi and Helen may research what books to buy monthly. Sue mentioned that we have community members who we'd welcome input of ideas of what books to purchase- Laura Mach-Cornwall, JoAnne Van Meter .

Helen has arranged with Kanopy to increase the number of patrons that may use that service. No one should be cut off as it is arranged now.

Library Report: Ann Marie Witt: Ann Marie has developed summer programs for people ages 9 and up. 6 participant minimum for each program. 2 teachers. The programs are Stop Motion Animation, Podcast creation and 2 Game Creation programs.

The board is enthused about these programs. We will need to advertise at the schools . Ann Marie and Gretchen Hammell will teach the classes .

Discussion of looking for a donation or used Keyboard for the library to enable keyboard classes at the library. Ukulele classes we also mentioned.

Amy gave a report on fees for background checks- \$35 per person. There may be free checks for the library because we have vulnerable populations. Amy will look into this.

Library Email Accounts- Discussed .org vs .com Cori will talk to Sue about Domain Name and report back next month.

Fundraising: Lauren- MERP Grant- Geo Thermal Energy for Library and Town Hall. Discussion of Library Merch. Phoebe-is working on the ALA Grant with Rhonda Schlangen. Nothing new to report today.

Book Sale: Collections at the Sorting Barn will start May 5 and continue every Tuesday 9am to 11 am until 2 weeks prior to the book sale. 4H Club has helped in the past. Amy will get in touch with them. Trash pickup will start May 5 and be picked up weekly to start. We can change it to Q2 weeks if we have less trash. Motion by Lauren. Second by Sue to pay for trash pick up. Passed. Accepted. Book Sale will be July 25 and 26, 2026 at the Mettawee School. We will ask Chris Ross if he is able to help transport books again this year. He and his truck have helped immensely in past years.

Discussed the Community garden and possible location at the library. We don't own the property, but the garden could aid with programming .

Mettawee School had a garden in the past, but the school was closed during garden season.

Discussion of next steps in hiring process

No new applicants. Re work job description at board retreat. Get back to current applications.

Motion to close existing advertising. Thank applicants and rework our board materials and advertising. Motion by Lauren, Second by Phoebe. Approved.

Cori and Amy will be emailing applicants. Work on policies for updates- Dress code and Room Rental.

Report to select board: Book Sale, Mettawee Garden, Possible Retreat, Ann Marie's Programs.

Reflection of Norms read by Cori

Motion to Adjourn by Amy Second by Lauren. Approved. Meeting Adjourned at 7:30pm

June 2, 2026 next meeting

Respectfully Submitted, Susan LaPorte, Secretary

