



Board of Library Trustees
Gladys E. Kelly Public Library, 2 Lake Street, Webster, MA
Minutes for Thursday, September 11, 2025

In Attendance

Rich Franas, Chair, Susan Veshi, Vice Chair, Martina Koziak, Treasurer, Sue Buehler, Mary Chabot and Rena Klebart. Sondra Murphy, Library Director, Evan Hale, Assistant Director and board clerk also present. Jeanne Mikels, Secretary, absent. Patricia Nectow observed the meeting.

Meeting Called to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:02PM.

Minutes:

Mary moved to approve the minutes as written; Martina seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Mary moved to approve the executive session minutes as written; Sue seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Reports

Trustees Report from the Director

The yearly financial report to the Massachusetts Library System is being started. We did not receive the Mass Cultural Council grant for One Book, One Community. Evan spoke about the amazing attendance numbers in August. Mary commended the morning yoga class that Adult Services Librarian, Jess Fontaine, is running.

Warrants and Financial Reports

Martina has not yet had a chance to sign the warrants but plans to do so shortly. She also gave an update on the financial reports.

Friends Update

Sondra spoke about the approval of the Friends' donation to be used in support of the library, not just for paying down the building debt. These funds will be used to hire a full-time staff member.

Unfinished Business

Library Schedule for September 25, 4:00PM Closure

Sondra requested to close at 4PM on September 25th in preparation for Bites, Books, and Blooms. Mary moved to close at 4PM on September 25th; Martina seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Staffing Discussion

Sondra spoke about some staff movements, including changes to some part-time positions.

Library Hours Discussion

Sondra spoke about formalizing a change in hours. The hours would be Monday-Thursday 9-8, Friday 9-1, Saturday 9-2, beginning in November. Mary moved to change the hours to those listed above; Martina seconded. The motion passed unanimously. It was noted that the change in hours could be postponed if needed.

Reminder of Bartholomew Representative in October

Rich reminded everyone that a Bartholomew representative will be at the Trustees' meeting next month.

Oral History Project Update

Sondra spoke about the oral history project that is moving forward. We're working with Samuel Slater, The Webster Historical Commission and Nichols College.

One Book, One Community

RF Kuang has not officially signed an agreement, but her agent has indicated that she will do two presentations, one at the high school, and one at the Library. We will work with her on determining a date, ideally in June, to hold the events.

New Business

Susan relayed a message from Jeanne regarding the conflict of interest training that trustees need to do every other year.

Adjournment

Martina moved to adjourn; Mary seconded. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 5:53PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeanne Mikels, Secretary

Evan Hale, Clerk

Exhibits (to be posted on the Library Website)

Director's Report

Financial Reports

Minutes Approved: September 11, 2025