

Brooks Memorial Library Board of Trustees

Minutes

January 13, 2026 4:45 PM

Call to Order / **4:46 PM**

Present: Margaret Atkinson, Bob Ferrante, Nikki Holland, Sirkka Kauffman, Jenny Rowe, Leo Schiff, Karen Tyler, Ann Varilly,
Staff: Lindsay Belville, Youth Services Librarian and Starr LaTronica, Library Director

Public Comments: Gemma Seymour attended and introduced herself, hoping to get involved with Brooks

President's Comments – Happy New Year! Thanks for those who showed up at last week's Selectboard meeting. Kate O'Conner has resigned from the library board, effective immediately.

Minutes of Tuesday, December 9, 2025: Approved

COMMITTEE UPDATES/ DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Finance/Asset Development Committee— Margaret— we are early in fiscal year, numbers look good, asking for Brooks section of town report to be approved by board. Endowment finances are spelled out for town report. Endowment will pay for renovation project management in the upcoming year. Board supports language in town report.

Technology Committee – Nikki Holland—two meetings since last board meeting. All new public computers have been installed and new laptops have arrived. New hot spots are on order. Social Service directory is complete and ready to be introduced to nonprofit partners for input. *Talking about Tech* monthly event series will begin on Saturday, January 24. ESS Matt Wojcik will present on streaming videos, e-books and audio books.

Buildings and Grounds— Nikki Holland— no recent meeting, new office created for Children's Librarian. Will allow for greater productivity. Roof work completed. Solar panel bid accepted.

Strategic Planning Committee—Ann Varilly— no meeting

Department Reports: Director, Youth Services, Information Services, Circulation, Outreach/Programming— Director position is not yet posted. Should be posted in

February. Children's room circulation has increased, now above pre-COVID level. YA circulation also increased. Summer reading hit highest level to date. Adult circulation has declined slightly. Digital collection circulation of adult materials has increased.

CONTINUING BUSINESS

- Social work and safety assistance update— fairly mild, going well, fewer restroom issues— locked, must request entry in upstairs facilities.
- Collection Development Policy: Acquisitions – Third reading, motion made and approved, finalized.
- Child Safety policy – Third reading, motion made and approved, finalized.
- Fine Arts policy— what are fine arts and what are they for? Not just objects. No longer have fine arts committee. We have \$21,000 from our fine arts deaccessioning. Our existing art that is displayed is not well described/labelled. We are looking toward an ad hoc arts committee.
- Non-resident library fees— suggest that they be evaluated yearly, need to update policy in order to change fees. Finance committee will review and draft new policy
- Town Budget FY 26 to 27– meeting is tonight.
- Nominations update— Brooks will put forward Stephanie Swindle and Felicity Ratte for our vacancies

Meeting adjourned at 5:59pm