

**Allenstown Public Library
Meeting of the Board of Trustees
59 Main Street
Allenstown, NH 03275**

June 17, 2025

The June 17th meeting of the Allenstown Public Library Board of Trustees was called to order at 5:00 PM by Jeff and seconded by Mandy.

Present: Amanda Seibel, Kathleen Pelissier, JoAnne Dufort, Gwen McGhee and Jeff Venegas

Absent: Betsi Randlett

Public attendees:

Items:

- Agenda minutes from May 20 meeting were reviewed and ready to be posted. Jeff moved to accept the minutes with the change and Kathleen seconded.
- Review Director's report and items from the agenda.
 - Betsi has given another design for the new sign. Have asked the library name to be made more even and to put the flourish above and below the whole name, not just Allenstown.
 - Mt. Washington pass was just for June, so it is not worth the money.
 - Having trouble figuring out who to create a poll on the website.
 - Schools' visits went well, and the kids seemed really excited to visit again.
 - Summer reading signups have begun and are going well. Summer reading officially begins next week.
 - \$7,500 in donations for the summer reading program.
 - The donated plants from Merrimack County Conservation were in rough shape, so the Pembroke/Allenstown Garden Club has taken them to nurse them back to help and will plant them at the library when they are ready.
 - May statistics- Parton Visits- 163, Checkouts- 338, Online checkouts- 290, New Patrons - 8 Crafts- 53, Spice Kits- 20, Facebook- people reached- 1,442, Facebook- post engagements-205
- Old business
 - Library hours
 - A survey on the new hours for Fall and how they may feel about them starting in the Fall on the Allenstown Library page. TBD based on polling. Any updates? Mandy will think on ideas for Betsi to see if she can help with polling.
 - Friends of the library- trying to see if we can get a volunteer to do this. Can do fundraising and grants we cannot apply for. Kathleen and Jeff may have someone in mind. Will reach out and see if there is interest in this. Kathleen needs to reach out to her contact and see if Jeff has. Jeff has not reached out yet but will! Will see if Kathleen has updates. Jeff's contact is not interested at this time. Kathleen will follow up with Kate.
 - Sign- is now the right time with the outcry when fire and police got theirs with the budget cuts? If we get a new sign now, is the timing right with the citizens of the town being upset about the new fire and police signs? If this is something we should pause on for now? Can still get quotes and gather information and then decide when the best time would be to purchase. Maybe we can lock in prices even if we pause and see if we can install in April instead.
 - Goals ideas (carried over but we can get quotes on):

- Bricks/pavers
- Bathroom painting
- Volunteer opportunities
- New business
 - o It has been suggested that if we go in default budget that folks will suggest cutting the library as a budget cost savings. There may be some sharing of this idea in the town. Investors in a town want to see schools, arts and such so they will put their business there. Perhaps prepare an all-up report on the previous year, the grants we receive and the history of the building. Embracing this with open arms to offer what we offer to the community, and this is what they are getting from it. Also stress the economic importance as well. Kathleen and Jeff can reach out or if Betsi wants to reach out to offer a chance to educate. If we have a candid, that would list the foundations and trusts in America that would give grants and such that is open to the public to apply for. Depends on the cost for a library? If it is a cheaper cost then that is a draw for folks into the library as well. Can Betsi also advertise on Facebook when she wins a grant as well, so the public is informed, the summer reading etc.
 - o Parking on off hours question.- Have noticed folks parking in our spaces on weekends and off hours. Are we ok with that? Said we are ok as long as not during business hours and as long as not when we plow. If we change hours, we would have to notify them.
 - o Idea from Manchester Summer reading with an adult option!- Pasted below and we can chat with Betsi next month on what she thinks. Could we do a smaller scale of this next year?

Sign up starting today to participate in the Manchester City Library's Adult Summer Reading Program!

For the fourth year running, the Manchester City library is pleased to offer reading incentives for all adults, ages 18+! Registration can take place any time after June 1, and the program runs from June 23 to August 8. Keep reading for more information on how to participate!

Registration:

Paperless: Sign up, log reading and activity, and enter raffles online at manchesternh.readsquared.com or download the ReadSquared app from the Apple App Store or the Google Play Store.

Unplugged: Visit the Info Desk at the Library's Main Branch on Pine Street! Keep track using the paper log sheets included in your welcome packet. Visit the Info Desk to submit your activity logs and exchange points for raffle tickets.

Earn Points by tracking your reading (up to 300 minutes per day) and by completing Mission activities!

Win Prizes by exchanging your points for raffle tickets. We have weekly raffles and one grand prize. Reach 1000 minutes to earn a coupon from a local business.

- Each raffle ticket costs 100 points
- You can only win one raffle prize during the Summer Reading Program, so purchase your tickets carefully!
- Raffle tickets will be drawn weekly on Friday at 8:30am, with the exception of the 4th of July holiday where the raffle will be drawn on the following Monday. All tickets must be claimed by that time to qualify for entry.
- 21+ prizes require ID at pickup.

Raffle Prizes:

- June 27: Angela's Pasta and Cheese pasta dinner with wine gift basket (21+ only)!
- July 7: Copper Cave gift certificates!

- July 11: Game night party pack with games, snacks and coasters!
- July 18: YMCA three month family membership!
- July 25: Gardening themed gift bag with tea towel, coasters and stationary!
- August 1: Two winners! Palace Theater voucher for two tickets!
- August 8: RegenTEA gift basket with assorted tea, tea pot and cups, honey spoons and a Jane Austen boxed set!
- GRAND PRIZE! August 8: Currier Museum Household Membership!

Start Reading!

Check out some Fiction and Nonfiction suggestions in our catalog and on display in the Main Library Rotunda!

The next Library Trustee meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, July 15th at 5PM at the Allentown Library. Motion to adjourn was made at 5:55 PM by Jeff and seconded by Kathleen.

Respectfully submitted,
Amanda Seibel