

Cobleigh Public Library Trustees' Meeting Minutes

Date: 1/22/26

Meeting called to order at 3:05 pm

Attending:

Kaitlin Wood, Director; Trustees: Sylvia Dodge (virtually); Paula Pearce, Treasurer (virtually); Jessica Simpson, President; Mary Thomas, Secretary; Dorothy Allard, President of the Friends of Cobleigh Library.

Minutes of the December, 2025 meeting: Mary motioned to approve minutes, Jessica seconded. Motion passed.

Friends' Report – presented by Dorothy Allard

The Friends Annual Meeting: Jan. 6.

The Friends have implemented a dues requirement (by donation) to differentiate between voting and non-voting members. Currently there are 7 voting members.

Bake sale: Feb 13 & 14.

IRS form, which is submitted one time/year, should be mailed in the next week.

Dorothy - gone from end of February – March 22.

Dorothy left the meeting at 3:22 pm.

Treasurer's Report – presented by Paula Pearce

The Library ended 2025 with a surplus of \$29,016, and we have paid some 2026 bills in advance.

The 2026 budget is smaller for two reasons:

- reduced hours for full-time staff,
- higher donations from the Annual Fund.

As of 1/20/26, investments stand at \$695,908. A breakdown was provided.

Paula will be away from Feb. 2-17, so this will be her last meeting

Paula's replacement as Treasurer will have to go to Ed Jones to sign a document in order to receive investment statements.

Director's Report – presented by Kaitlin Wood

Circulation for December, 2025 was slightly higher than the previous month. A breakdown was provided.

Patrons using library in December increased over previous month.

Computer/network use: 258 patrons.

Weekly programming continues at a robust level. A complete list is available on the website at: cobleighlibrary.org

New Trustee as of March, 2026: Susan Kuecker will be on the ballot for voting on Town Meeting Day.

New hours as of January 2. Now open at 10:00 am on Mondays and Saturdays.

Kanopy is available again for library patrons.

Manton Foundation gave the library \$72,000 to purchase an electric 2025 Chevy BrightDrop 600 to replace our current bookmobile. A copy of the purchase agreement was provided.

Library of Things has been updated with new items which patrons can check out for a two-week period.

New Programs include: beginning sign language class and yoga for seniors.

Vermont Humanities Book of the Year: "The Light Pirate" by Lily Dalton..

Cobleigh Public Library Trustees' Meeting Minutes 1/22/26, p. 2

Monthly Order Sheets: Trustees signed sheets for December.

Old Business

HUD Grant Application for Elevator Modernization. An overview was provided. Sylvia motioned to give Kaitlyn authorization to apply for the grant. Paula seconded. Motion approved.

New Business

New Electric Bookmobile:

- For insurance purposes, town is listed as owner, but Library reimburses town for cost of insurance.

- Discussion of interior and exterior finishes. Jessica posed the idea of having a contest for the exterior, which could generate a lot of community involvement. Jessica made a motion for the idea and Sylvia seconded. A deadline of March 31 was proposed for submissions.

Next Meeting and Adjournment

Feb. 17, 3:00 pm.

Mary motioned to adjourn at 4:23 pm., Sylvia seconded. Motion approved..

Lib Min 1.22.26
Respectfully submitted by Mary Thomas