

Cobleigh Public Library Trustees' Meeting Minutes

Date: 2/17/26

Meeting called to order at 3:04 pm

Attending:

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

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

Friends' Report – presented by Dorothy Allard

Bake sale on Feb 13 & 14 was successful. **See Director's Report for details.**

There will be no Friends meeting in March.

Dorothy will be gone from end of February – March 22.

Dorothy left the meeting at 3:13 pm.

Treasurer's Report – presented by Kaitlin

Kaitlin has been working to be sure that her accounting on income and outcome squares with the figures that the Town Clerk's Office sends over to her. She has cleared up several discrepancies.

Director's Report – presented by Kaitlin Wood, See Attached Report.

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

Monthly Order Sheets: Trustees who were present signed sheets for December.

Local trustees, who were not present, can sign them in the Library over the next week.

Old Business

HUD Grant Application for Elevator Modernization.

- Kaitlin requested estimated quotes from two companies.
New Electric Bookmobile:
- The certificate of insurance has been received.
- Kaitlin has contacted Mike Leonard to build out the shelving, and MEI to install the Starlink connection. Chuck's Flooring will install the flooring for free.
- Kaitlin has received several proposals for decorating the outside of the van. The deadline for submissions is the end of March. RCT will wrap the vehicle for free.
- The van should be road-ready by the end of May.
- Ideally, we would like to sell the old van. Kaitlin and Colleen will be posting a notice on two different listserves.

New Business

When the new trustee starts after Town Meeting, we will need to review all officer assignments.

AARP Challenge Grant: Kaitlin distributed information on the grant, which is national.. Mary motioned to give Kaitlin authorization to submit the application. Bruce seconded. Motion passed.

Next Meeting and Adjournment

Tuesday, March 24, 3:00 pm.

Mary motioned to adjourn at 4:20 pm., Jessica seconded. Motion approved..

Lib Min 2.17.26
Respectfully submitted by Mary Thomas

Director's Report February 17, 2026

Circulation Statistics For January: 3,198 items (similar to last month's 3,207 figure).

Print Books Circulated: 2,595

Adult Fiction	Adult Nonfiction	Juvenile Fiction	Juvenile Nonfiction	Large Print Books	Interlibrary Loan Books	Bookmobile Checkouts
855	329	615	268	57	218	253

Other Items Circulated: 603

DVDs / Videos	Attraction / Park Passes	Audiobooks On CD	Libby / E-Books	Library of Things	Puzzles / Games	Charging Ports
48	0	18	508	4	12	13

Patrons/Computers Statistics:

We had **1,308 patrons** visit the library in January, and **156 patrons** use our computers/WiFi.

Programs & Community Engagement

- **Book Club:** Earlier today, our Book Club group discussed *Still Life* by Louise Penny. Sarah Gagne brought Penny Lane again (an adorable pup trained by Therapy Dogs of Vermont) and she will continue to bring Penny to the Book Club (as well as one storytime) every month. *Jane Eyre* by Charlotte Brontë will be the next novel discussed by the group on March 24.
- **Love Your Library Bake Sale:** Last week, the Friends of the Cobleigh Library hosted their annual bake sale in the Reading Room. They raised over \$800, which is approximately \$100 more than they earned last year according to Suzie Corbeil, the treasurer.
- **Music Man:** This Friday, February 20th, families are welcome to visit the library at 11:30 am to hear some catchy tunes from kids' musician Ed Morgan.
- **Climate Presentation:** On April 17th, Sophi Veltrop of the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources will put on a free climate conservation seminar upstairs in the library. This event is related to the Vermont Reads Book of the Year: Lily Dalton's *The Light Pirate*, which we will receive 35 free copies of within the next few weeks from Vermont Humanities.
- **Tax Season:** We have a station set up at the library for patrons who need specific tax forms, and we also have state and federal instruction booklets that people can make copies of. This has been very popular and well-received by the public. Additionally, I have communicated with AARP about making our library one of their tax preparation/assistance sites next year.
- **Weekly Programming:** We continue to offer a fun story-time program on Tuesdays (at 4 pm) and on Wednesdays (at 10 am), as well as a Baby/Toddler Play Group on Fridays (at 10 am). This is in addition to our weekly computer/cell-phone assistance group every Tuesday at 10:30 am, a Dungeons & Dragons game on Tuesday/Thursday evenings, and French Club,

Scrabble, and Chess Clubs on Thursday evenings. The "My Favorite Book" program for families also continues to take place every second Saturday of the month.

Exciting Developments

- **Interlibrary Loan Via The Courier System:** We recently expanded our interlibrary loan (ILL) services! Instead of one delivery per week, we now have ILL books dropped off on Tuesdays and Thursdays, which means that patrons can request up to six (instead of only three) books from other libraries per month. This increase was made possible thanks to a \$688 grant from IMLS through the Vermont Department of Libraries, as well as a \$1,500 grant from the Vermont Community Foundation.
- **Donations & Grants:** We received a \$200 donation from Passumpsic Bank earlier this month, as well as five other donations (ranging from \$25 to \$150) from multiple patrons. Additionally, our Youth Services Librarian, Garrett Brinton, earned a \$750 Vermont Early Literacy Initiative (VELI) grant from the Vermont Department of Libraries a few weeks ago, and I was recently awarded a \$900 Rapid Response Grant from Vermont Humanities for adult programming opportunities.
- **Bookmobile Contest:** We are officially hosting a design contest for our new bookmobile. There is no age limit to participate, and the only requirement of the contest is that submissions must include the following two phrases somewhere in the design: "**The Edith Bell-Brown Bookmobile**" and "**The Cobleigh Public Library.**" In March, we will post the submissions on the library's Facebook page & website so that members of the community can vote for their favorite designs, and then once we have three finalists, our Cobleigh staff and trustees will pick the winner.
- **New LED lighting:** The Town of Lyndon received a MERPA grant last year, and the library was included in their application for new LED lighting! Aubin Electric installed 85 new lights in the building yesterday while we were closed for Presidents' Day, and they will install the remaining lights (on the first floor and mezzanine) tomorrow morning.
- **UVM Pilot Program:** I found out last week that I was accepted into a pilot program with the University of Vermont (UVM). Essentially, the Cobleigh Library — including all our patrons — will receive access to UVM's immense and diverse digital collection for the next year, in exchange for me attending four training sessions (two over Zoom, and two in person). In other words, our patrons will be able to look through and read items in UVM's online library, just like how they can use their library cards to access items for free on Libby and Kanopy.

Looking Ahead

- **New Programs:** We are now offering a Beginner's American Sign Language class every Thursday evening in February through April in the Children's Room, which started on February 5th. Likewise, we will soon host a program called Yoga Lite, which will be a fun and relaxed style of yoga for seniors, and the first session is scheduled for March 6th at 11:30 am. It will run every first Friday of the month moving forward. Lastly, we plan on starting an Audiobook Club and a Romance Book Club at the library in April.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kaitlin Wood
Library Director
Cobleigh Public Library