

Cobleigh Public Library Trustees' Meeting Minutes

Date: 10/22/25

Meeting called to order at 5:35 pm

Attending:

Kaitlin Wood, Director

Trustees: Sylvia Dodge; Bruce Starbuck; Mary Thomas, Secretary; and Dorothy Allard, President of the Friends of Cobleigh Library

Minutes: Sylvia motioned to approve minutes of the September meeting, Bruce seconded.

- ⑩ Motion passed.

Monthly Order Sheets: Trustees signed sheets for October.

Friends' Report – presented by Dorothy Allard

⑩ **Book sale on October 10-11th** raised \$1,100. Approximately 180 people attended on Friday and 200 on Saturday. The book sale also serves as an important community service and social event.

⑩ The Friends will meet the week of 10/27/25 to debrief on the book sale, review the Friends' by-laws, recruit volunteers to clean out Friends' supply closet upstairs, discuss funding for Libby and Canope, as well as review the effectiveness of the Friends' three fund-raising events: plant sale, bake sale, book sale.

Director's Report – presented by Kaitlin Wood

⑩ **Circulation** for September was up: 3,103. A breakdown was provided.

⑩ **Number of patrons** using library in September was 1,296. 188 patrons used the computers in September.

⑩ **Annual Coin Drop** on September 27 brought in over \$2,100.

⑩ **Selectboard Meeting** Kaitlin attended the meeting on Monday, September 29, to update members on recent accomplishments for the library.

⑩ **Booksigning** Author Charles Fergus came on October 2nd to read from the second edition of his recent book, *Trees of New England*. About 35 people attended. This talk was co-sponsored by Green Mountain Books.

⑩ **Occasional Book Club** September's book was *Frankenstein*. 14 people signed up. Next book will be *Wuthering Heights* on November 25.

⑩ **Possible Burke Mountain Club Collaboration** Kaitlin will meet on October 16 with the Director of the Club to discuss collaboration opportunities.

⑩ **Fall Programs** New events, both formal and informal, are being added to the library's monthly calendar on a regular basis, including a cell phone class and a virtual reality program for families. A complete list is available on the website at: cobleighlibrary.org

⑩ **Summer Program** final numbers from Garrett: 354 kids completed the reading challenge, logging in 4,053 hours of reading. Additionally, 254 kids redeemed their book vouchers at Green Mountain Books, a 21.5% increase over last year. Passumpsic Bank sponsored \$1,500 worth of these books and Kingdom East covered the remaining cost. Overall attendance in the various summer programs totaled 2,299, an 80% increase over 2023-24.

⑩ **Library's hours** will change on January 4th, 2026, to increase Monday's hours to 10:00 to 4:00 pm. Paid holidays will continue as they have been in the past.

⑩ **Overdue books** The library's list of overdue books is too big and goes back too

far – some of these should probably be considered lost. The staff is coming up with a procedure to address overdue books.

⑩ **Donations** from the White Market's Coins for the Community Drive and from the Rotary Club were received.

⑩ **Bookmobile Repairs** were made on a volunteer basis by Jason Coons.

⑩ **Courier Grant Application** was submitted. In the past this has covered costs associated with our Inter-library Loan Program.

⑩ **New Bookmobile Options** the Manton Foundation, which has funded the purchase of other electric bookmobiles in the state, may be interested in receiving a proposal from Cobleigh about our purchase.

⑩ **Budget Update** Michelle Newland confirmed that we can rollover any surplus at the end of the year into the next fiscal year. Budget preparation is underway and Kaitlin will provide a draft for the November meeting. The budget needs to be submitted to the town by early December. "

Old Business

⑩ **Painting the building:** Kaitlin has fund-raised approximately \$8,000 for this so far. About \$10,000 has been paid out for painting the front of the building. The remainder will be completed in spring. Another \$8,000 will be due then.

⑩ **Round Hill Security Update** Still having trouble connecting with someone from the company for repairs.

New Business

⑩ **Bookmobile Financial Account Update** The account is running low. We may draw from the Edith Bell Brown account bringing it up to a more reasonable level.

⑩ **Annual Appeal and Appropriation letters for towns** We should begin collecting these by mid-November.

Next Meeting and Adjournment

⑩ November 19th (3rd Wednesday) 5:30 pm

⑩ Bruce motioned to adjourn at 6:45 pm., Mary seconded. Motion passed.

Lib Min 10.22.25Rev
Respectfully submitted by Mary Thomas