

**MENDON PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES
REGULAR MEETING
Monday, September 14, 2026, 7:00 PM
Mendon Public Library**

Approved

PRESENT: Alicia Zysman- Cromwell (President), Tom Dooley (Vice President), Mary McCabe (Treasurer), Katie Ghidiu, Tom Ochsenhirt

EXCUSED: Katy Corey (Corresponding Secretary), Alison Zero Jones,

OTHERS PRESENT: Lyla Grills (Director), Emily Brincka (Recording Secretary)

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 PM by Alicia Zysman-Cromwell.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

TOWN REPORT: None

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:

A motion was made to approve the Consent Agenda for September 14, 2026, Mendon Public Library Board of Trustees Regular Meeting which included:

- Agenda for Board of Trustees regular meeting on September 14, 2026
- Minutes from the Board of Trustees regular meeting on August 3, 2026
- Minutes from the Board of Trustees Sustainable Library Initiative Committee on August 31, 2026
- Minutes from the Board of Trustees Policies Committee on August 10, 2026

Motion: Alicia Zysman- Cromwell Second: Tom Dooley Unanimously approved

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: (Alicia Zysman-Cromwell) None

TREASURER'S REPORT: (Mary McCabe)

Financial report the MPL Board of Trustees was distributed for the September 14, 2026 Regular Meeting. The Library's account transfers, vouchers, and deposits were reviewed, as well as the Board of Trustees' account balances, deposits, and payments. A motion was made to accept the Financial Report of the MPL Board of Trustees for the September 14, 2026 Regular Meeting including the payment of vouchers 2026-

09a-111 through 2026-09a-119 in the amount of \$1,853.05, and vouchers 2026-09b-120 through 2026-09b-129 110 in the amount of \$4,662.22.

Motion: Mary McCabe

Second: Alicia Zysman-Cromwell

Unanimously approved

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY'S REPORT: None

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- **Budget Committee:** (Lyla)

See below for meeting with Sustainable Libraries Initiative Committee.

- **Policies Committee:** (Lyla)

The *Library Employee Handbook* will use the model being created by the Town with revisions to parts that are specific to the library. If something is not in the *Library Employee Handbook* refer to the Town's employee handbook.

Revisions to the *Code of Ethics Policy* was tabled to the next meeting, but discussed issues with freedom of information. MCLS owns all of the patron records. Branches typically adopt the MCLS policy. Our current *Code of Ethics Policy* does mention freedom of information law (i.e. FOIL.) The question was raised of who would pay legal fees if the library was in a suit for freedom of information.

- **Long Range Planning:**

The committee will meet, with MCLS Director Emily Clasper's assistance, to form an outline of the board's vision. Lyla will be away the end of September so plan the meeting for an October date.

- **Sustainability:**

The group discussed having a NYSERDA (New York State Energy Research and Development Authority) energy audit for \$100. A motion was made to approve \$100 for a NYSERDA energy audit for \$100 to be paid out of the Board of Trustee's checking account.

Motion: Tom Dooley

Second: Alicia Zysman-Cromwell

Unanimously approved

The committee found when reviewing the Section K "Financial Sustainability" they need the Budget Committee's input. It was suggested to compare our spending and fund balances to other similar-sized libraries' spending and fund balances. A meeting for both the Budget Committee to review budget portions of Section K was scheduled for Thursday, October 15 at 5:30 PM at the library.

The *Sustainable Facilities Plan* was reviewed and discussed. A motion was made to approve *The Sustainable Facilities Plan*.

Motion: Tom Dooley

Second: Katie Ghidui

Unanimously approved

Lyla still needs to talk to the Town, so further discussion and approval of the *Site Management Plan* will be deferred to the next Board meeting.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT: (Lyla Grills)

The Library Director's Report to the Board of Trustees for September 14, 2026 was distributed and reviewed. The following items were discussed:

- On September 15, Lyla will meet with the Town at Dreisbach Fields to look at possible Story Walk pedestal placement.
- There are grant opportunities open for applications right now. It was suggested to resubmit the environmental film fest application because that one is already written up. Katie Ghidiu offered to look at MCC for information on Eric Klinenberg's speaking engagement there, for possible assistance getting him as a speaker for Mendon.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

- A motion was made to approve the *MCLS Direct Access Plan of Service for 2027-2031* and authorize the MCLS Director to submit the plan to the New York State Library Division of Library Development.
Motion: Alicia Zysman- Cromwell Second: Tom Dooley Unanimously approved
- The Board discussed the 2027 regular meeting day/time conflicts with other town and village meetings. The Board will decide on a better day/time when fewer members are missing, so this was tabled until the next Board meeting.

7:57 the Board voted to go into executive session to discuss a personnel issue.

Motion: Alicia Zysman- Cromwell Second: Tom Dooley Unanimously approved

8:09 the Board voted to reconvene.

Motion: Alicia Zysman- Cromwell Second: Tom Dooley Unanimously approved

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

Regular meeting adjourned at 8:09 PM.