

Town of Kensington
Public Library Trustee Meeting
Thursday, November 13, 2025

Minutes

Present: Susie Gilbert, Director; Susan Bascom, Trustee and Chairperson; Matthew Dow, Trustee and Treasurer; Amanda Morrill, Trustee and Secretary

Meeting called to order: 4:30 pm

September minutes approved

Statistics:

September visits are up from last year and down from last August. Physical circulation down. Museum visits are up.

October visits up from last month and last year. Physical circulation up from last month and last year. Museums up from last year. ILL down from last year.

Budget: Quickbooks report reviewed, on track with budget.

Update from Kathy on 2026 budget- tax figures were miscalculated, payroll with 3% COLA would be \$96,348

Monthly checks have been calculated on 2024 figures, check of \$8,396.78 received for the difference

Past events:

Sept 17th Jane Oneail- Escher 20 people attended

Sept 24th Claire Evans- "From Uptown Girls to Downton Abbey: How American Gilded Age Heiresses Invaded the British Aristocracy" on zoom 20 people attended

Oct 8th Jeffrey Zygmunt- "Graveyard Sounds Haunting Words" in person 10 people attended

Oct 14th "Mysterious Massachusetts" 7pm on zoom 4 attended

Oct 22nd Glenn Knoblock- "Hidden History of Portsmouth" 7pm on zoom 19 attended

Nov 5th Steve Hale 15 people attended

Nov 12th Claire Evans - "Fact & Fiction: The Art of British Spycraft" on zoom 17 people attended

Upcoming events:

- Holiday market at KES, gift baskets to raffle and crafts for kids

- Dec 4th- Felicia Motherway boxwood trees 6pm. Will use grange if available. 13 signed up currently, will subsidize ½ of fee for Kensington residents \$25pp
- Dec 9th annual Santa party 6pm
- Dec 16th staff party upstairs
- Dec 17th Jane Oneil: Degas and the Ballet
- Kids after school events well attended 9-12 kids on average
- Special story times: Fire Dept and Mica

Ongoing Business:

-Next policy to review: Internet Use Policy, will look at policies from other local libraries to incorporate a section on AI use

-Addition update: social trustees hired a grant writer. Friends of the Library will act as a sponsor for grant(s) as the social committee does not have the public charity designation to request grants.

-Friends approved two more museum passes- Mount Washington Auto Road and Strawberry Banke, and new furniture for Mah Jongg.

-HB 273 goes into effect Jan 1st. Will update the wording on our application as well as the policy at Dec meeting.

-2026 holiday closures reviewed

New Business:

-Book supplier Baker & Taylor has closed. Using Water Street bookstore in the short term. Going forward will use a combination of Water Street, Ingram, and Amazon.

-Comcast email is migrating to Yahoo

-Susie attended workshop in Concord Oct 3rd on library policies: will look at adding policies on Director Relief from Duty, Social Media Policy, Work from Home Policy

-Discussed the possibility of changing library hours, staying open until 6pm 2 days a week to accommodate working patrons. Would not affect payroll as Dana/Susie are both here, one will work 10-5 and one 11-6. They will decide which days and confirm this change.

Next meeting: Thursday December 4th 4:30pm

Meeting adjourned at 5:30