

Town of Kensington
Public Library Trustee Meeting
Thursday, July 16, 2026

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

April minutes approved

Statistics:

May statistics- visits and total circ same as last month, decreased from last year; physical circ up from last month down from last year, streaming decreased from last month and last year.

June statistics- visits, total circ, physical circ, and streaming are all up from last month but down from last year

Museum passes up from this time last year and ILL remains steady

Budget: Quickbooks report reviewed, on track with budget.

Slight increase in payroll due to Susie's extra hours with addition meetings, etc. Plans to cut back on hours this summer.

Savings on programs thanks to donation from Friends for summer reading program.

Past events:

- Field day event for Summer Reading Program- 160 in attendance
- 57 attended Ice Cream guy on July 9th
- 102 attended Wildlife Encounters on July 16th

Upcoming events:

-Summer reading program events

- Ice cream social August 13th

-Friends Annual Book and Bake Sale Saturday August 8th from 9-3

-Will schedule zoom events through the fall, trustees in agreement to wait on in-person events without space to host at the grange

Ongoing Business:

-Addition update: Plan to break ground mid-sept, with many details still to work out, including getting a storage unit for books not taken to Grange, hiring a moving company, removing memorial garden (Ron Beaudry of Down to Earth Landscaping has agreed to remove it and replant when addition is done)

Selectmans meeting July 27th with architect, planning board mtg Aug 19th, meeting with police chief and architect July 20th re: parking etc

Grant received from CDFA for \$200,000, however need to solicit NH businesses to donate then businesses are able to write off on their taxes. Susie and Elaine attended Exeter/Hampton/Portsmouth chamber event to network

John Segal came to advise about the books upstairs, recommends keeping the books of local towns' histories, will use on shelves in reading room once completed

-Olive Lovvik completing her Girl Scout project, presenting July 30th at Exeter YMCA with Susie

-NH Humanities Council- Susie attended community conversation June 27th at the church, Susan attended followup meeting July 14th

-Policies: Volunteer policy- waiting to hear back from lawyer to advise on language

New Business:

- Brainstormed ways to recognize longevity of library staff

Next meeting: Thursday August 20th 4:30pm

Meeting adjourned at 5:20pm