

Salisbury Library Board Meeting
January 19, 2026

Board Members present: Alison Metcalfe, Janet Mosurick, Deb Brighten, Gay Truax, Kate Williams, Chris Naylor

Staff absent: Alissa Shethar

Guest present: Willie Jansen, Lisa Durst, Martha Robinson

Call to Order 5:03

First order of business, Deb made a motion, seconded by Gay to accept Lisa Durst to the Salisbury Library Board. Passed unanimously.

Secretary's Report: minutes for 12/15/25 to be recorded and posted with correction: Staff present: Alissa Shethar

Minutes for 11/17/25 Clarification of assignment of Library Directors time as presented in minutes to reflect the discussion was about focusing on securing increased attendance at programs rather than increase number of programs.

Approved unanimously with the above amendments.

Treasurer's Report:

Alison reviewed recent expenses. Reported the Annual Appeal is is much higher than it has been in the past.

Library Director's Report:

Review of the report prepared by Alissa. Temperature has been getting better and better; space heaters and heated boots.

Annual Report for the VT Dept of Libraries is done.

Discussion on programming have been positive, events have been well attended.

Tech night busy this month.

Craft Class on Feb. 7th - Mirjam Brett

Charlie Bain has been looking over the WiFi network to allow the public to access the network outside of the building. Presently there are three networks: Meeting House, SFPLPulic, and Circ Desk (private)

Alissa will be devoting an hour or two per week to getting our Sustainable Library Certification.

Motion was made by Janet to approve the director's report. Passed unanimously.

Old Business:

- Nominations are still open for the SFPL Board, a letter should be written to Kate and then the Select Board approves the notification.
- Alison confirmed the rent for use of the church has been set at \$400.
- Alison shared Sam's info and needs at this time, a decision was made that Alison will keep us abreast and coordinate our help.
- Tech night - Making appointments was discussed. The board felt strongly that we did not want to discourage walk-ins but may revisit if more people attend.
- Alison wrote a letter to be shared with non-resident borrowers describing the dilemma we face with our online services. The board discussed adding information about the cost into the Annual appeal letter as well as the information be shared at Town Meeting. Chris felt that all could benefit, not just non-residents from the information. The letter and who will receive it and in what form will need further discussion.
- A communication committee has been suggested and the following board members are interested: Lisa, Chris, Gay, we are hopeful that Kathy Schloff and Alissa would join also.

New Business:

- **Gratitude:** To Lisa Durst for joining the Board, Martha for attending tonight's meeting. Travis for identifying a bad gas regulator and having it attended to. To the church for plowing and sanding.
- **Publicity for programs** - Communication committee will meet to revisit sources and ways that it is done now. Access and discuss what works and what more can happen.
- **Town Meeting Poster** - Discussion on how to present information for Town Meeting. Deb suggested a Tri-fold Board (which the Library has somewhere) with the first area to CELEBRATE OUR VOLUNTEERS. The second area would show LOOKING FORWARD and the third space would contain financial information, possibly a pie chart showing the expenses of the SFPL. It was suggested that we have a signup sheet there listing specific tasks that we are looking for; Interior painting, Landscaping, carpentry etc. Any pictures that anyone has that could be used for the poster should be sent to Sam or Deb by Jan.16.
- **Renovation Update:** Deb shared the news that a bid has been accepted and a contract is being written with Silver Maple Construction. There were two structural bids received. Water and Septic will be done by DeBishop. Bill Casavant, a Salisbury resident has agreed to be Clerk of the Works.

Next meeting: Monday February 16 at 5pm at Library.

Meeting adjourned at 6:40pm

Respectfully submitted,
Christine Naylor

January 19, 2026 Library Director Report

Library goings on—The weather outside has been frightful, but Travis and I have gotten better at keeping the library WARM. The new space heater is very much appreciated by the Storytime group AND the Tuesday night writers group. There is now a heater under the circulation desk, which is REALLY nice. And your librarian has heated BOOTS.

Grants and Reporting

The **Annual Report** for the Vermont Department of Libraries is DONE. Big thank you to Alison for helping with the financial info, and for her big brain for numbers.

I put together some STATS for you all- see the other attachment.

I redid the **T-mobile Communities Grant** that Deb wrote, trying to make it look different? and resubmitted for their fourth round. It's a very competitive grant as it can be used for so many things. Wish us luck.

Have almost finished the **Vermont Humanities Grant** for the live memory tree.

Programming

The event with **John Aberth** was terrific and very well attended. **Tech night** was busy this month. The man with mac questions asked if he could give me a HUG when I sorted out his browser issues?? **Beate Jensen** also showed a group of us what to do if someone was bleeding and donated several nifty kits to the library for emergencies.

Storytime is getting more active again- Kat is doing a nice job of keeping it going.

Mirjam Brett will be coming back to do a special crafty class on February 7th.

Sam are you still interested in teaching the social media class? When?

Wifi Security

Charlie Bain, who does IT support for towns and non-profits, come to the library on January 6th to take a look at our wifi networks. I've been trying to re-establish a public Wifi network that could be accessed outside the building with no password, but was having a tough time setting that up with the Church's fidium router. Charlie did solve that- now we have three networks: Meeting House, SFPLPublic, and Circ Desk (which is private).

Unfortunately, we realized that the printer cannot be on the public network. To make the printer shareable with folks coming in with their laptops will take some more tinkering.

Children's books

I am working on unpacking the children's picture books in the pods and reorganizing what's in the basement, so that we have seasonally appropriate books and the bins are easier to access. We do get ILL requests for children's books, so I want to be able to locate books, which up until now has been difficult/impossible.

Sustainable Library Initiative

The program has started, and Alissa will be devoting an hour a two a week to getting our certification. I met over zoom with the national SLI coordinator this month, and will be joining a monthly Vermont SLI group on Zoom. We will start forming small committees for various projects- you will have a chance to volunteer if you like next month.