

Salisbury Library Board Meeting
March 17, 2025

Board members present: Alison Metcalfe, Kate Williams, Deb Brighton, Chris Naylor (zoom), Gay Truax, Kathy Clarke, Sam Smith

Staff Present: Alissa Shethar

Board members absent: Peggy Cox, Janet Mosurick

The meeting convened at 5:15pm

Secretary's report:

Minutes for 2/17/25 were read & recorded by Sam. Date corrected to 1/20/25. Motion to approve made by Kate, seconded by Sam, approved unanimously.

Treasurer's report:

Investment account lost \$895.12 since last meeting. The \$5000 tech grant has been received. Income is above budget and spending below budget at this point in the year (37 weeks in, or 71% of budget). Pass to Queechee Science Museum was purchased for \$175. Motion to approve made by Kate, seconded by Kathy, approved unanimously.

Library Director's report:

Alissa encouraged Board members to attend an upcoming MAC class so everyone is familiar and could cover front desk if needed. Great new books are in! Computer classes are going well, format well received. Upcoming programming includes Abenaki sign maker (Mar 29), and series on aging & elder care options (TBA). Alissa will start weeding the collection with Barb Karle, in preparation for move. Ilsley does not have any boxes, tho we did get 20 bankers boxes from another source. Recommended posting need for these on FPF. Chris volunteered to cover for Alissa while she attends DCF conference Thursday May 29. Alissa will also attend the VLA Conference in Killington on 5/19 (Monday), and Board will cover cost of the conference. Motion to approve Director's report made by Kate, seconded by Gay, approved unanimously.

Old Business.

Computer classes schedule and publicity:

Louis will be teaching Phishing and Scams. Dates for classes will be confirmed tomorrow. Board members recommended weekly posting of upcoming classes on FPF (in addition to website, Addie Indie & social media) to keep them front of mind for potential attendees. Kathy agreed to do the FPF postings for the month.

GMLC update:

Alison has done a lot of research on this & distributed a handout. She clarified that GMLC gets all its ebooks from Overdrive. Overdrive also has an Advantage program which makes books available more easily, which seems to explain why we are subscribed to both.

Program ideas update:

The aging & elder care options: Alissa has contacted & signed up Project Independence and Elderly Services for April. Other candidates include Shard Villa/Eastview/the Residence, Homeshare, ACTR, Home Health/Bayada, Palliative Care, Hospice, Advance Directives, ?Vaccinations—Dr John Dick on the 1950s polio epidemic

Photo record of library prior to renovation:

Kathy Dick has agreed to do this for us

New Business.

Art & chocolate:

Discussion resulted in decision to hold it on Sat. July 12. Deb to ask Andres about tent staying up after Ice Cream Social. Gay will reach out to a list of vendors that Kate will send her.

Report on town Meeting 3/1:

A lot of interest in the renovation plans. 28 people have signed up to volunteer with tasks during the move. Select Board members were supportive. People attending have the handout about the library move.

Renovation Plan Update:

Deb reported that the Cadillac heating system is not fully “green”. GMP and Efficiency Vermont would give rebates for a green system, but engineer wants the Cadillac. Well site has moved and will need to be re-permitted, but its hard to get someone who’s not too busy to work on that. Grants: Deb recommends we work closely with her on applications for finishing the second floor so we are strategic. For the CERF grant, ideas have to be run past the Select Board as we are not a 501c library. VT Arts Council prefers to fund spaces for programs & classes rather than bookshelves etc.

Loans to cover the work until reimbursement: VT Community loan fund has 6.1% interest rate. National Bank of Middlebury would not charge an origination fee. Best deal is Town funds for covered bridge reconstruction that have not been used yet, & could be borrowed & repaid.

Moving Forward update:

Jennifer Stefani (former Salisbury Librarian) has donated bankers boxes.

Gay offered some apple boxes (very strong)

The piano will not be restored, Kathy agreed to try to take it apart to make it easier to move? Alison has written Select Board to request help with removing things that will not be kept. Items we could give away for a donation will be put on FPF (Kate).

Preservation Trust Retreat, June 11-12:

Kate offered to attend but will talk to Glenn first as he may have advice.

Computer table privacy screen:

Kathy agreed to work on this, Alissa has the materials.

Motion to adjourn at 6:32pm by Kate, seconded by Gay, approved unanimously.

Next meeting Monday April 14 at 5pm

Respectfully submitted,

Sam Smith/Kate Williams



March 17, 2025 Library Director's Report

Library goes on....

Great! New! Books! We have a few new nature books (two of Robin Wall Kimmerer's), and a slew of award winning children's books coming, as well as the usual flaming hot new fiction...

Programming

- The **Story Hour** group continues to do very well. Is anyone going to Trader Joe's?
- We have hosted three **Technology classes** and attendees have found them useful! (I've learned some things too.) We have two more coming up: **Using the Mac** (which I'd love to see you all at) and **Avoiding phishing and scams**. I was worried the format would be a little boring, but it hasn't been, either for the teachers or for the students. People like that the information is provided in chunks, with both practice and review.
- The **Energy Navigator/VEEP** event was a lot of fun, and it was nice to be in the Church basement. I hope we can cohost some future activities with the Conservation Commission.
- Our **Abenaki Sign Maker**, Tim Brookes, is coming at the end of this month and I hope the Book Club members who read Aunt Sarah can be there to meet him.
- Kate and Barbara Andres suggested that we have some programming around **aging and elder care options**, and I have signed up some folks to do programs in April. First will be Project Independence and Elderly Services, with more to come.

Collections

- Barb Karle and I are going to be weeding the main collection over the next few weeks, with the idea that we will not spend time and energy moving books we don't want to keep.
- I will be tackling the "overflow" books - the children's books in the storage room, and the very mixed collection in the 'pass through cabinet' behind the circ desk.

Grants

- I've spent quite a bit of time on grants, and submitted applications for the **Manton Foundation Grant**, **The Vermont Community Foundation** "urgent/unexpected needs" grant, and a summer **Clif programming grant**. We have also applied for a **Summer Reading Grant**.

Professional Development

- An hour here and there, but it adds up...
- I would like to go to the Vermont Library Association conference on Monday, May 19th. I will have to take the day off at my other job, but I'll get continuing education credit for it.
- However, I will also be going to the Spring Juvenile Justice Conference in DC the week after that, and will need someone to cover for me on Thursday May 29th.