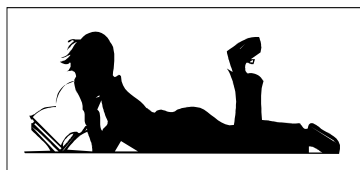


April 1, 2026 DRAFT



**Whitingham Free Public Library
Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes
April 1, 2026**

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 5:39 pm by Chair Mark Halverson.

Attendance:

Director: Kristine Sweeter

Trustees present: Mark Halverson, Wendy Sergeant, Judy Bernard, Tanya Bernard

Public: Claudia Green

Public Comment:

Claudia Green commented that the written minutes did not reflect the Executive Session motions and also raised concern that meeting postings may not have been placed in all required locations.

The Board reassured Ms. Green that the matter would be reviewed promptly. Ms. Green referenced Vermont library regulations. The Board will review applicable Vermont Open Meeting Law requirements.

Approval of Minutes:

Wendy Sergeant made a motion to approve the March 2026 minutes. Seconded by Tanya Bernard.

Motion approved unanimously.

The Board also reviewed the minutes of November 2025 and February 2026 and noted that the motions to enter and exit Executive Session were inadvertently omitted from the written minutes.

Following public comment, the Trustees agreed to review the recordings and notes of those meetings and amend the minutes as necessary. The Board will reconvene to vote on the corrected minutes.

Director's Report:

Director Kristine Sweeter presented the Director's Report. See attached report.

Discussion Items:

Life's Final Chapter – April 11

Hospice volunteers will facilitate a discussion program.

Family Bingo – April 19 - The library is seeking donations for this event.

USS Slater Virtual Program – April 23 -A virtual tour presentation will be provided. The library has also purchased passes for visits to the site in Albany.

Plant Swap – May 30 - Seeds have been donated to the library.

Several trustees plan to grow plants for the swap.

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Library Camp – June 22–26 - Library Camp will be one week this year due to scheduling limitations.

Programs currently planned include:

-Storyteller from Bennington, Fizical Fairy Tales

-Museum dinosaur program

These programs will occur at the end of the day and be open to the public.

Old Home Week – July 24–26

The library float - wagon measures 16' by 8'. Discussion included how to safely secure participants and materials.

On July 24, the library will host a tent from 12:00–5:00 PM with children's activities.

The parade will be held July 25.

Motions:

Wendy Sergeant made a motion to approve the new **Patron Conduct and Shared Space Policy**.

Seconded by Tanya Bernard. Motion approved unanimously.

New Business:

Wi-Fi Hotspots

The Board discussed the possibility of lending Wi-Fi hotspots.

Library Deck Project

The library continues to request bids and obtain permits for the new deck. Plans include: Wheelchair ramp, ADA accessibility, Maintenance-free materials. The deck will remain open when the library is closed, to allow public Wi-Fi access.

Adjournment:

Wendy Sergeant made a motion to adjourn the meeting at **6:33 PM**. Seconded by Judy Bernard.

Motion approved unanimously.

Next Meeting:

May 6, 2026.

The Secretary will send a reminder email the Monday prior to the meeting.

Note:

A tentative special meeting is scheduled for **April 8, 2026** to approve amended minutes from the November 2025 and February 2026 meetings.

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy Sergeant

Secretary, Whitingham Free Public Library Board of Trustees

❖ **Programming:**

Adult Craft Group – 3rd Thursday
Yoga Mondays 6 pm – in person
Book Group 2nd Wednesday 5 pm
Homeschool Group – Mondays 9-12 @ J'ville Church

❖ **Specials:**

Halifax Community Club – (Bonnie Brown) Beech Leaf Disease – TBD
Life's Final Chapter – Saturday April 11th
Family Bingo – Sunday April 19th
USS Slater – Thursday April 23rd
Plant Swap – Saturday May 30th or June 4th
Library Summer Camp June 22-26th
OHW – June 24-26th
Blueberry Festival Friday July 31st

❖ **Finances: 2025-2026 Fiscal Year**

- Account balance: M&T Money Mkt: \$76,630
- Deposits: 4/1/26 \$201.50
Total Annual appeal - \$13,765 / FYTD \$15,310/ Goal \$8,525

❖ **Staff**

Kristine

Vermont Space Grant Consortium Library STEM grant information session: We do not reach the numbers of people they are looking for.

in person – Montpelier 5/18 Information Literacy: Skills-based training for Library Staff
The American Library Association defines information literacy as the ability to “recognize when information is needed and have the ability to locate, evaluate, and use effectively the needed information.” While librarians regularly engage with this on some level, it can be a challenge to keep information literacy skills well-honed and to effectively apply them.

❖ **Misc.**

Library deck, awning request for bid process
Old Home Week 7/24-7/26
7/24 – Library Tent 12-5
7/25 – Parade