



Alice M. Ward Memorial Library Board of Trustees
Minutes
September 3, 2025

I. Open Meeting:

The 09/03/2025 Alice M. Ward Memorial Library (AWML) Trustees meeting was opened at 4:00 pm by Nancy Petro.

II. Attendees:

Nancy Petro, Sharon Belleville, Gana Carr, Shellie Bresnahan, Cindy Smythe, Ron King.

III. Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting:

A motion was made by Shellie and seconded by Gana to approve 08/06/2025 AWML Trustee meeting minutes. Minutes were approved by a unanimous vote.

IV. Additions/Deletions to Agenda:

None

V. General Public Comments:

None

VI. Building Maintenance/Concerns:

Trees in front of the library were looked at by a tree service. The service recommends removal of one and pruning of the other due to tree health. After discussion it was decided to seek additional opinions on the status of the trees before deciding on final action.

Three HVAC companies are completing estimates for a ducted hot air heat pump system for replacement of the current furnace and air conditioning in the library.

VII. Budget Review:

A motion was made by Nancy and seconded by Shellie to approve the financials as presented. Approved by unanimous vote.

The second reimbursement request, submitted on 6/27, for \$8000 and the third submitted on 7/21 for \$13,143 have not yet been received. An inquiry will be made to ascertain whether the requests reached the VT Library Grant office for disbursement, or if a resubmission must be done.

Cindy is working on a grant to fund a couple of programs over the winter co-hosted with CNC.

VIII. Policy/Bylaw Review:

None.

IX. Library Activity:

The Sugar on Snow and Moose Festival book sales were both successful, netting about \$280 between them.

Go Ask Alice book club met and discussed They Called Her Dirty Sally by Amy Matayo. A detailed discussion was had, and all readers enjoyed this book. The discussion was lively, and most readers enjoyed the book. The September book is The Frozen River by Ariel Lawhon. The book club hopes to share a light potluck supper at the September meeting.

7 new library cards were issued in August.

A donation was received for the purchase of Halloween Candy this year. A generous donation was received to be used as the library sees the need for.

A program titled Wilderness Preparedness and Injury Assessment will take place on September 6th at the library. It will cover proper attire and essential items to carry on a back country trip as well as first aid basics and improvisation techniques.

Will Staats, wildlife biologist, will be presenting a program again this year on September 19th at 6:30 pm. Mr. Staats is a favorite as he shares his wildlife adventures.

Hungrytown, a Vermont folk band, will be performing at 6 pm, October 3rd in the Canaan Schools gymnasium. This concert is being paid for with a grant from the Vermont Arts Project.

X. Ongoing/Future Goals:

Continuing Carriage House project.

XI. Other Business:

Ryan Edwards, the architect for the Carriage House project, is awaiting a response from the engineers regarding the Carriage House Project.

School is back in session and Cindy looks forward to resuming collaboration with the school library.

New books purchased with the CLIF grant have been coming in.

A survey was done by PACIF. PACIF is a provider of Property & Casualty and Workers' Compensation coverage to municipal entities. The surveyor made several recommendations for the library, all low or moderate and no high level concerns. A few have already been addressed. **2025 PACIF Grants reimburse members for up to 50% of** pre-approved purchases that are intended to reduce the likelihood of PACIF claims. The library is looking into the remaining recommendations to ascertain whether any of the recommendations made would be eligible for the reimbursement.

XII. Adjournment:

A motion was made by Nancy and seconded by Gana to adjourn the 09/03/2025 AWMML Trustees meeting. Meeting adjourned at 5:05 pm.

Next Meeting: The next regular meeting of the Alice M. Ward Memorial Library Trustees will occur at 4:00 pm on 10/1/25.