



Alice M. Ward Memorial Library Board of Trustees
Minutes
February 4, 2026

I. Open Meeting:

The 02/04/2026 Alice M. Ward Memorial Library (AWML) Trustees meeting was opened at 4:00 pm by Nancy Petro.

II. Attendees:

Kathy Smith, Sharon Belleville, Gana Carr, Nancy Petro, Cindy Smythe, Ron King, and guest Melissa Sheridan.

III. Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting:

A motion was made by Nancy and seconded by Gana to approve 1/7/26 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:

No current maintenance aside from routine care.

Cindy reminded trustees that this summer we will need to schedule carpet cleaning. Cleanway from St. Johnsbury cleaned them previously.

Dormers need to be painted.

VII. Budget Review:

No financial reports are available.

Property insurance increased more than expected- will be over budget as budget already finalized and submitted to the town.

VIII. Policy/Bylaw Review:

Annual trustee review of policy binder completed.

IX. Library Activity:

Kits for the tiny art show are now available, and several have already been given out.

Book club met after a two-month hiatus over the holidays. Two first time attendees joined the discussion. The Book, "The Extraordinary Life of Sam Hell" which seemed to be well liked by all. The book "The Berry Pickers" will be discussed at the February gathering of the club.

Several picture books, easy readers and junior fiction books were weeded from our collection and donated to the Stewartstown school.

Cindy, Gana, Peder Rude, and Ryan Edwards met with Mark McClary for quarterly meeting regarding the VT State Grant and the carriage house project.

X. Ongoing/Future Goals:

Continuing Carriage House Project. Note: project has gone out to bid and several contractors have been to tour the library.

XI. Other Business:

Ron will begin weeding the collection soon.

Junior Fiction is lacking, looking for more books for the collection.

2 new patrons this month.

Trustees conducted interviews with candidates for the Library Director position. There were several good candidates for the job. Trustees look forward to introducing the new director very soon.

Executive Session:

Sharon made a motion to go into executive session for the purpose of discussing staff matters under the provisions of Title 1, Section 313(a)(3) of the Vermont Statutes. Second, by Nancy. Passed unanimously.

Executive session entered at 4:20 pm

Executive session ended at 4:35 pm

XII. Adjournment:

A motion was made by Kathy to adjourn the 02/04/26 AWML Trustees meeting. Meeting adjourned at 4:40 pm.

Note: There will be no trustee meeting in March. Trustees will attend the annual town meeting.

Next Meeting: The next regular meeting of the Alice M. Ward Memorial Library Trustees will occur at 4:00 pm on 4/1/2026.