



Alice M. Ward Memorial Library Board of Trustees Minutes

October 1, 2025

I. Open Meeting:

The 10/03/2025 Alice M. Ward Memorial Library (AWML) Trustees meeting was opened at 4:00 pm by Nancy Petro.

II. Attendees:

Nancy Petro, Kathy Smith, 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 09/03/2025 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:

The tree in the front of the library that was dying has been cut down. The other tree was trimmed, and the stump of small tree that had been previously cut and was growing new chutes was pulled. Additionally, the “alcove” area was cleaned out.

The HVAC companies have not yet provided estimates for a ducted hot air heat pump system for the replacement of the current furnace and air conditioning in the library.

VII. Budget Review:

Worker’s Comp and insurance both had an increase this year after the annual audit resulting in both being over budget. This will not put the overall budget over. A note has been made to account for this increase in the 2026 budget.

A motion was made by Gana and seconded by Kathy 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. Per Peder the VT Library Grant request was not completed- he will be submitting.

VIII. Policy/Bylaw Review:

None.

IX. Library Activity:

4 new library cards were issued last month.

Interlibrary loans have dropped off this month.

The library will be purchasing 10 pumpkins for “Pumpkins on the Porch” this year. Those pumpkins will be available for community members to carve and display on the porch. Public are encouraged to enter their own pumpkins as well.

On October 11th The library is hosting “Ratatouille” story time put on by Donna Merson.

Go Ask Alice book club met and discussed The Frozen River by Ariel Lawhon. A detailed discussion was had, and all readers enjoyed this book. The discussion was lively, and most readers enjoyed the book. The group shared a light supper and enjoyed the fellowship. The October book is The Homecoming by Kate Morton.

The Wilderness Preparedness and Injury Assessment program too, place on September 6th at the library. There were 7 attendees.

Will Staats, wildlife biologist, shared stories with 18 attendees and fielded numerous questions from the group.

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 still awaiting a response from the engineers regarding the Carriage House Project.

The WIC Program will be hosting a WIC clinic every other month starting on October 2nd in the library. The library will receive a stipend for their use of space

As of 10/14 Windows 10 will no longer be supported. Dan (LazerWorks) recommended sticking with what we have for now. Kathy S will talk to Frank Sawicki about buying laptops from the school.

Old books that need to be disposed of will be taken to the dump.

XII. Adjournment:

A motion was made by Nancy and seconded by Gana to adjourn the 10/01/2025 AWML Trustees meeting. Meeting adjourned at 5:15 pm.

Next Meeting: The next regular meeting of the Alice M. Ward Memorial Library Trustees has been changed to 4:00 pm on 11/17/25.