

Abbott Memorial Library

Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes

September 15, 2025

The September 15 meeting took place in-person at Abbott Memorial Library and began at 7:07pm

Present: Cory Smith, Jim Robinson, Betsy Rhodes, Mary Worrell, Doug Abbott and Heather Durkel. Jocelyn Randles was absent.

The agenda was approved.

The August minutes were approved as amended.

Reports

Librarian: *Cory Smith*

- MOTH STORYTELLING
 - 26 people attended the Fish Stories themed event. We enjoyed plenty of funny and poignant stories, and most storytellers stayed close to the theme.
- ABBOTT BOOK CLUB
 - The first meeting this fall will take place on Tue. Oct. 28 at 6 pm, and we will discuss The Women by Kristin Hannah. After that, we will meet on the 1st Tue. of every month. On Tue. Dec. 2, the book will be This is Happiness by Niall Williams.
- SUMMER READING PROGRAM
 - Kids are still coming in to claim their summer reading prize. The grant report is due October 6.
- Artistree's Artfest event will take place this Sunday September 21 from 11 – 3. The library will offer a craft (felted foxtail balls) and book sale from 12 – 2.

- We will work on starting up Storytime this fall, especially since Heather is interested in attending.
- Cory continues to weed the books in the children's room.
- Cory is working on the puppet show for Saturday November 1. Abbott Library is looking forward to a lantern walk in early December as well as an evening charades program in December.

Outreach: *Doug Abbott*

- Doug is happy to help post on the listserv in his outreach capacity
- Liz Wellington is interested in collaborating with the library to have a possible author talk featuring her new book.

Building and Grounds: *Betsy Rhodes*

- KNOX Box
 - The KNOX Box company said that the KNOX Box cannot be installed as designed on our building.
 - Betsy will meet with the Teago Fire Department to discuss alternative locations where the KNOX Box can be placed with the goal of installing it before winter.
- AIR FILTERS
 - Air filters have been ordered.
- FUEL OIL
 - Betsy revisited our August discussion about fuel prebuy options for the 2025/ 26 season.
- STREAMBANK
 - Betsy & Cory are working on mitigating invasives on the streambank.
- CHIMNEY REPAIR
 - Betsy spoke with the chimney repair person. He stated that The Abbott Library is still on his queue for 2025.
 - The estimate for the chimney project remains the same as was previously quoted (~\$2,500 - \$3,000) and the board previously voted in favor of the project.

Treasurer: *Mary Worrell*

- The board reviewed the income & expense report
- A small working group will meet to begin working on the draft budget

Development: *Jocelyn Randles*

- Jocelyn was absent

Chair: *Jim Robinson & Mary Worrell*

- ACCESSIBILITY
 - Hunter Ulf responded to a number of questions that the board posed
 - Conversation regarding the various accessibility options ensued

New Business _____

- POETRY WALK
 - The board briefly discussed the possibility of an April 'Poetry Walk'

The next meeting will be held at the library October 20, 2025 at 7pm.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:16 pm

Respectfully submitted by Heather Durkel, Secretary