

Abbott Memorial Library

Board of Trustees Minutes

February 16, 2026

The February 16 meeting took place in-person at Abbott Memorial Library and began at 7:14 pm

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

The agenda was approved.

The January minutes were approved.

Reports

Librarian: *Cory Smith*

- HUD GRANT APPLICATION:
 - Due March 31st
- KNIT NIGHT
 - Every 3rd Tuesday of the month from 4:30 -6:00
- TRACKING PROGRAM
 - Feb 24
- MOTH STORYTELLING
 - March 20th
- RECYCLING PROGRAM
 - Program about where our recycling goes in the state of Vermont
 - Will take place in April

Building and Grounds: *Betsy Rhodes*

- OUTSIDE FURNITURE
 - The outdoor furniture made for the Library by Eagle Scout Will Coates has been stored for the winter. The picnic table is in Doug Abbott's barn, and the Adirondack Chairs have been put in the Library basement.
- KNOXBOX
 - Installed on the back door with a key
- CALENDAR & LIST
 - Betsy is working on a calendar by month / season with items to keep in mind when she steps off the board.
 - List of 2015-2025 with highlights & paperwork and what happened
 - List of 2015-2025 with highlights & paperwork and what *did not* happened but the board should followed up

Development: *Jocelyn Randles*

- Jocelyn was absent

Treasurer: *Mary Worrell*

- Nothing to report at this time

Outreach: *Doug Abbott*

- Nothing to report at this time

Chair: *Mary Worrell*

- Town informational meeting on Saturday, February 21. Mary & Cory will attend.
- The Library Board of Trustees is seeking two additional trustees. Doug Abbott and Betsy Rhodes are both stepping down.
- Discussion of Thomas Ware paintings
 - Thomas Ware was a young painter in the Pomfret area.
 - Seven Thomas Ware paintings were given to the library around 1905.
 - The Woodstock History Center began storing the paintings in 1981.
 - Two of the paintings are on display at the Woodstock History Center

- The historical center does not own the paintings and therefore they cannot provide care or restoration.
- Further discussion regarding future care of the paintings ensued.

The next meeting will be held at the library March 16, 2026 at 7pm.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:27 pm

Respectfully submitted by Heather Durkel, Secretary