Abbott Memorial Library
Board of Trustees Minutes [DRAFT]
Monday, October 19, 2026, 7pm

The October 19 meeting took place in-person at Abbott Memorial Library and on Zoom. It began at 7:13 pm.

In Attendance: Jocelyn Randles, Jan Salstrom, Mary Worrell, Cory Smith, and Katie Brickner

Absent: Jim Robinson and Heather Durkel

The October agenda was approved.

The September meeting minutes were approved.

Reports _____

Librarian: *Cory Smith*

- The fire extinguishers were inspected on September 28. Two were replaced and two were taken to be refurbished.
- ArtFest took place on October 3. It was well attended and, even with Cory, Sue, and Jenny working, extra help would have been useful. Seventy five children came to the library to have a cup of tea and do an apple print.
- The book club met on October 6 and 14 people attended. It was a great discussion about *Confederates in the Attic* by Toni Horwitz. The next meeting will be on Tuesday, November 10 and we'll discuss *So Far Gone* by Jess Walters.
- Cory is working on the summer reading program and the Currier Grant program, which are due at the end of the month. From now on, there will no longer be a Currier Grant application. Libraries will still receive that federal funding, but it will be distributed using a different process.
- The Silver Circus is coming to town on Saturday, November 7. In preparation, we need to do publicity, measure the stage, prepare the space and clean up after the event. Katie and Jan volunteered to help with set up on Friday at 2pm. Jocelyn said she will help with clean up on Sunday. Jocelyn will make a poster. Cory will manage the letter board and website. Heather will create a filer. Mary and Cory will measure the space.
- Our local Vermont rep candidate Michael Hoyt has asked to do a meet and greet at the library.

Building & Grounds:

- Mary tried to contact the mason but he hasn't responded to her messages. She suggested that we consider someone new for next year. Jan and Jocelyn agreed that after two years it's probably time to consider other options.

Development: *Jan*

- Jan is ready to move forward with the annual appeal. Once the final draft of the letter is approved, we'll need to print the letters and envelopes. We agreed that the peace crane was a nice option for the stamp. Jenny made some copy edits to the letter. Betsy will put the letter onto the letterhead. The group recommended having them printed at Staples along with the labels.

Treasurer: *Mary*

- Mary shared the income/expense reports as well as the current Vanguard statement.
- The main takeaway is that investments are down a bit overall, but they're up year over year.
- Cory and Mary will meet in late October to do the preliminary budget for next year.
- We're also considering MuniciPay as an option for online donations. Other libraries use this system and it seems like a good option for us. People would be able to earmark donations specifically for the library using credit cards and QR codes.

Outreach:

- See the librarian's report above for outreach related to the Silver Circus.

Chair: *Jocelyn*

- Nothing to report.

Old Business _____

Chimney Repair:

- See Buildings & Grounds report above.

Site Survey:

- Holt Gilmour estimated $3,180 to do the survey. The monument sets are $120 each, as necessary and upon our approval. Jocelyn suggested sending the estimate and an overview of work to Hunter to make sure it'll provide what he needs.

Thomas Ware Paintings:

- Katie needs to follow up with Darlene Bialowski about getting an estimate for an appraisal.

New Business

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Install Storm Windows:

- Mary will help Cory next week.

Action Items _____

- **Silver Circus:**
    - Katie and Jan volunteered to help with set up on Friday at 2pm.
    - Jocelyn said she will help with clean up on Sunday and will make a poster.
    - Cory will manage the letter board and website.
    - Heather will create a filer.
    - Mary and Cory will measure the space.
- Annual Appeal:
    - Jan will update the mailing list.
    - Katie will mail photos from ArtFest and Sampler Stories to the library email account.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:11.