

Brownell Library Trustees  
Meeting Minutes  
5/20/2025

Brownell Trustees in attendance: Jeanne Grant, Christine Packard, Sheila Porter, Gabrielle Stevenson, Dottie Bergendahl, Karen Hergesheimer, Venessa Luck, Helen Donahey, Alex Carmical, Beth Custer

Brownell Staff in attendance: Wendy Hysko, Erna Deutsch

Meeting called to order at 7:00PM by Jeanne Grant.

1. Agenda Changes/deletions:  
Take welcome new library Trustees off the agenda
2. Public to be heard:  
None
3. Announcements:  
Gabrielle's last meeting until fall.  
IMLS funding cut in Maine has eliminated services to the visually impaired.
4. Minutes of Tuesday, April 15, 2025  
Dottie moved to accept minutes, Christine 2nd, passed unanimously.
5. Financial Reports:  
Checking- \$1809.20 CD- \$2928.93  
Overall where we should be, some over, some under but should balance out in the end. Christine moved to accept the financial report, Venessa 2nd, passed unanimously.
6. Reports:  
Library directors and Staff reports- All are happy with programs and events, thankful for the volunteer party. ILL statistics explained by Wendy. Was asked if we should look back to Covid stats still, decided not needed.
7. Committee Report:  
Strategic Planning- Everyone liked the new format used this year, Dottie moved to approve the strategic plan as amended, Jeanne 2nd, passed unanimously.
8. Work groups:  
100th year planning- Christine volunteered the Trustees to be in charge of the party in July 2026. Grants are available if we combine Brownell's 100th year celebration with the country's 250th year celebration.  
Sustainability- Diverse recruitment- will be on the agenda for next month. Asked trustees to think about what attributes we want in a trustee and how we go about recruiting members. Should we make a public statement? Alex and Wendy will look into and share resources to look at.

9. Foundation Report:

Book sale room, new prices start in September (\$3.00 hardcover, \$1.00 paper and kids). Fundraising letter to be finalized in June and sent out in July. Will have an online version too. Saturday was donation day, another one in June would like at least 1 Trustee to help with donation day. 3 hours shift the 3rd Saturday of the month.

There was a donation of \$1000 to be used towards a 3D printer.

10. Old Business:

Roof/ building update- due to rain it has not happened yet, but hopefully soon  
Lincoln renovations- continues

Update on Kolvoord room- going along

Memorial Day booksale- set up at 9am. \$1 books, kids 2 for \$1, then a buck a bag till the end.

11. New Business:

IMLS- Lawsuit worked out for funding as of now.

Essex Pride- May 31st Booth at Maple street. 12-2 Helen and Venessa 2-4  
Jeanne and Jess to assist

12. Adjournment:

Meeting moved to be adjourned by Christine, 2nd by Dottie. Meeting adjourned at 8:30pm.