

Haverhill Public Library  
Board of Trustees  
Minutes of May 21, 2026

The regular monthly meeting of the Trustees of the Haverhill Public Library was called to order at 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, May 21, 2026 in the Whittier Conference Room. In-person attendance included Trustees Bresnahan, Coletti, Lyons, Sheehan and Veasey-Sirois. Also in attendance was Director, Sarah Moser and Assistant Director, Jane Lemuth.

**Secretary's Report**

The trustees were given copies of the minutes dated April 16, 2026. After perusing the minutes, a motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes. The minutes were approved.

**Treasurer's Report**

Josh presented the financial highlights for April:

- Updates on the current balances for the endowments, which continue to be consistent and increasing steadily.
- Josh discussed the amounts of unrestricted cash available and stated that the trustees can lift any restricted board-restricted money in either account.
- The Reader's Fund donations have been consistent with previous years.
- The Operating Report shows consistency, which is good going into the building project.
- Spending, heading toward the end of the fiscal year, is on budget. Managers are spending well.
- The audit is done. Josh will invite Jenn in to discuss the results.

**Cecily Craighill Davis Update 9:50 a.m. – 10:05 a.m.**

- We received \$200k from the Mass Cultural Council.
- Cecily discussed updates on pending and upcoming grant applications.
- The design of the scrims to go on the fencing is almost finished.
- Cecily wrote an article for Haverhill Life as a "stepping stone" article to introduce the campaign and project.
- Final booklets were shown to the trustees.

**Director's Report**

A copy of the director's report was given to the trustees. Sarah discussed the highlights and other Director's news:

- We are going to continue interviewing for the circ/tech position and begin interviewing for the open youth services position.
- An offer was made to a candidate for the Page position.

- The 3<sup>rd</sup> floor is empty and everything and everyone has moved to the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor.
- Luis has been cleaning out the garage and there is a dumpster and Uhaul for use.
- Fencing will be put up in early June. There were some delays due to permits and scaffolding supplies.
- There has been talk of cutting down some trees and bushes but no one knows who owns them, the library or the City?

There was discussion on possibly renaming the library to include John and Olive MacDougal and how to display it on signs and the building.

A motion was made and seconded to go into an executive session to discuss personnel. All trustees were in favor. The executive session began at 10:30 a.m. and ended at 11:05 a.m.

The trustees thanked Sarah and Jane for a job well done managing the staff and all aspects of the building renovation and want to give each a stipend during the rest of the renovation. They were very thankful.

Sarah asked the trustees if they would be more vocal with advocating for union members salaries in the wake of the teachers receiving an 11% salary increase while library staff only gets 2%. They agreed.

### **New Business**

Sarah discussed the FY27 proposed trustees budget. She stated that the monthly draw would be a few hundred dollars less, there would be \$10k over the MER budgeted while the MAR is where it should be. Also the budget would go up by \$15k mostly for TD portfolio management fees, marketing and PR, museum passes and miscellaneous like food provided to the staff during the renovation. A motion was made and seconded to accept the proposed budget.

Sarah asked to upgrade Luis's position to senior custodian and to raise his salary in a budget meeting with the Mayor. She stated that Luis Mendez is more than deserving of this upgrade and raise as he acts as a building manager and not solely a custodian. The Mayor agreed.

There being no further business to discuss, a motion was made and seconded to adjourn. The meeting ended at 11:40 a.m..

Sincerely,

Kathleen Bresnahan