

Camden Public Library Board of Trustees

Minutes of the May 15, 2025, meeting conducted in person and on Zoom.

Attendance

A quorum was in attendance.

Present in person: Erin Donovan, Patty Eddy, Ken Gardiner, Jake Gerritsen, Jeremy Pratt, Liz Senders, Heather Shanklin, Kristen Smith, Natalie Travia, Larry Ward, Kendra Watkins, Christina Young

Present on Zoom: Marisa Baskin

Absent: Jennifer Gromada, Jana Mohr Lone

Non-board members present in person: Jane Lattimore, Lynne O'Leary Annis, Kristy Kilfoyle, Russell O'Bryan

Non-board members present on Zoom: none

The meeting was called to order at 4:02 pm EST by Kristen Smith.

1. There was no public comment.
2. Sending our best wishes to Dave Jackson.
3. The minutes of the April 17, 2024, meeting were approved.
4. The minutes of the special May 1, 2025, meeting were approved.
5. Kristy Kilfoyle introduced Jane Lattimore. Jane says the training has been wonderful since her start in March. She feels lucky to work here, meeting patrons, and has been having a great time. She does various tasks at the library on Tuesday evenings and weekends, and when she isn't at the library, she is a docent at the Farnsworth Museum.
6. Kristy Kilfoyle presented the Director's report, adding the following:
 - a. Progress is being made on the policies that are in draft. The personnel committee will review aspects of FMLA updates shortly
 - b. Leon Kroll painting – we have signed a contract from Hirsch & Adler, NYC to represent us in sale of the painting. Before sale, a public program will be arranged to present and highlight the painting. There will be a time for viewing in the Picker Room, details are being worked out.
 - c. We have the potential opportunity to host a visit from an original copy of the Declaration of Independence. One of the remaining original copies (a Dunlap broadside) is going on tour and we are hoping to be included. Ideas about a 'write it together' program even are being formulated. Kendra recommended trying to have a local historian/author visit during the event.
 - d. Strategic plan banner on the library website was temporarily pulled down. Some comments received lately were unrelated to our strategy, so the website form is paused. Anyone can still comment using paper forms available in the rotunda. The website forms will be re-instated in the latter part of June.
 - e. Kristy has an appointment with Chellie Pingree's office to discuss funding and local library concerns about the recent federal funding cuts.

7. Liz Senders presented in the Treasurer's report, adding the following:
 - a. April report was reviewed. Revenue from commemorative benches were positive at the beginning of the month.
 - b. Projections were discussed by Kristy – we will do the usual end of year push, but generally we are tracking well. There are two outstanding bench renewals, two new are being reserved, which will leave 9 for the taking.
 - c. FEMA emergency funding is pending, hoping to receive a check soon. Up to 75% of admin costs should be recoverable, paying for the time Russel and Kristy have spent on the grant work.
 - d. So far in May, the board fundraising goal has been exceeded at \$25,500. There was one Millay member who indicated they would pull funding for the library due to our support of the warrant, however, to date there seems to be no other financial impact.
 - e. A letter will go out to the Millay members to highlight the work done to address the warrant and explaining the decision that went into submitting a letter to the town on the matter.
8. Russell O'Bryan reviewed the Facilities report, with the following additions:
 - a. Brick repointing and roof flashing will start Sept/Oct, will follow with a multi-year plan that we can share with the Town. Also, in the fall a small portion of the south lawn will be dug up to look for leaks into Kristy's office. Once a solution is determined, further work will be done around the edges of the lower level.
 - b. Window cleaning will take place in the next couple of weeks.
 - c. Jeremy Pratt indicated that there should be a resolution to the Coastal Copper issue in the early fall.
9. Kristy Kilfoyle reviewed the Parks report, with the following additions:
 - a. Tree Keepers quote was approved for work to be done. Additionally, there are 4 spruce trees that are dead that need to be taken down. Tree Keepers will recommend a replacement tree type and provide a quote.
 - b. Clean-up day will be rescheduled.
10. Natalie Travia presented Will Dailey as a nominee for Trustee. After discussion, a motion was made to elect Will Dailey as a Trustee. The motion passed.
11. The Harbor Park Special Committee reported that the Trustees will be holding an event to share information on Harbor Park on May 25, 2025, from 11am – 2pm. Recommend that the tent have a sign that says 'Trustees' to ensure it is clear that this is an event sponsored by the library.
12. Book Sale scheduled for May 17th from 10-4. Larry Ward thanked the volunteers and encouraged Trustees to stop in and support the effort.
13. Old Business - none
14. New Business
 - a. Kristen Smith shared that on May 20th at 1:00 there will be the tree 'unveiling' on the corner of Atlantic Avenue across from the library steps. There will be a poetry reading

and all are welcome to present a poem about trees if anyone would like to read one to the attendees.

- b. Executive Director yearly review is due soon, please complete Trustee survey
- c. This was Ken Gardiner's last board meeting as he completes his second term. Everyone thanked Ken for his service, generosity and engagement. Ken shared that he was on the centennial fund committee for 6 years before his 6 years on the board and will remain on the Finance committee to continue supporting the library. Ken feels the library is in great hands with group of Trustees, the staff, and Kristy's leadership.

15. There was no Executive Session.

16. The next Camden Public Library Board of Trustees meeting is June 19, 2025, at 4:00pm.

17. Kristy handed out Millay brochures for all the Trustees to send to three neighbors and friends who are potential new Millay members.

18. A motion to adjourn the meeting was made at 4:43 pm. The motion was approved.

Respectfully submitted,
Natalie Travia