



Alice M. Ward Memorial Library Board of Trustees
Meeting Minutes
July 1, 2026

I. Open Meeting:

The 07/01/2026 Alice M. Ward Memorial Library (AWML) Trustees meeting was opened at 4:00 pm by Nancy Petro.

II. Attendees:

Nancy Petro, Kathy Smith, Gana Carr, Shellie Bresnahan, Sharon Belleville, Melissa Sheridan

III. Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting:

Motion to approve minutes from the 6/3/26 trustee meeting was made by Kathy and seconded by Nancy. Passed unanimously.

IV. Additions/Deletions to Agenda:

None

V. General Public Comments:

None

VI. Building Maintenance/Concerns:

Japanese knotweed is growing on the library lot. Zach Brown will bring it to the attention of the selectboard.

There is a porch column in need of repair due to wood rot. Jacques (the gentleman who has volunteered to do some other projects around the library) is going to repair it.

Estimates for painting the porch deck will need to be obtained.

VII. Budget Review:

CLIF grant provided \$1000 for the summer reading program.
YTD financials reviewed.

VIII. Policy/Bylaw Review:

None

IX. Library Activity:

12 new library cards were issued over the last month.

The library participated in the Family Fun Day at the Colebrook Rec Center on June 6th. Melissa hosted a booth displaying a selection of library materials and information about library services, library cards, and the summer reading program. Additionally, there was a clothespin drop game and promotional items were distributed. Participating in this event provided Melissa with a valuable opportunity to engage with the broader community.

33 kids have signed up for the summer reading program and are coming in for books and prizes. The library has been transformed to support the program theme with signage, dinosaur figures placed about in the children's and youth areas, information sheets and activity sheets (for completion in the library or at home).

Pre-K will be in for story hour the week of July 6th.

One child completed the "1000 books before kindergarten" challenge. Melissa submitted a congratulatory article and photo to the Colebrook Chronicle congratulating him on his accomplishment.

Seven people attended the Go Ask Alice book club and discussed "Travels with Charley: In Search of America" by John Steinbeck. Overall, the group enjoyed the book, especially Steinbeck's recounting of his cross-country journey, the people he met, and the geographic and cultural differences he observed along the way.^{8th}. The program is designed to align with the summer reading program and the participants will create clay dinosaurs which they can keep.

Dino Dig Creations with Michele Johnsen is scheduled for July 8th.

Mahjong and Bridge clubs are in the works.

A large book order was received.

X. Ongoing/Future Goals:

Continuing Carriage House Project

XI. Other Business:

Peder Rude and Ryan Edwards met with the trustees by Zoom to discuss the contract proposal from Hebert Construction that will be brought to the Selectboard on July 9th.

Melissa completed her first course towards her Certificate of Public Librarianship. As part of the final requirement for her course, she wrote an op-ed highlighting the importance of our library and its role in the community.

XII. Adjournment:

A motion was made by Kathy and seconded by Gana to adjourn the 07/01/26 AWML Trustees meeting. Meeting adjourned at 4:15 pm.