

Groton Free Public Library, Groton, VT
Library Trustee Meeting
Thursday, June 18, 2026

The duly warned meeting of the Library Trustees was held at the Groton Free Public Library on June 18, 2026.

Trustees in attendance were Jennie Gaiss, Chair (remotely); Deborah Jurist, Treasurer; Dawn Evans, Secretary; and Wayne Knott. Also in attendance was Sarah Spira, Library Director.

Jennie Gaiss called the meeting to order at 6:06 p.m.

May 14, 2026, Minutes:

Deborah Jurist made a motion to approve the draft minutes of the May 14, 2026, meeting of the Trustees. Wayne Knott seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report:

Deborah reported that we're at 42% of budget. She said that Sarah is just starting to make purchases in the books and digital category of the 100 account. We have purchased the refrigerator. To date, we have only used about 10% of the miscellaneous account. Deborah is satisfied with how the \$17,000 transfer is reflected on the revenues page. We have a little money in our PayPal account to get transferred into the 400 account.

Sarah said we should be getting the summer program grant of \$350. We should also be getting a reimbursement from 302 Cares for the Tween and Teen Night expenses at the end of this month. She noted that the item purchased in furnishings was the book card. The refrigerator will be coming out of the miscellaneous category. Expenditures in programs will be ramping up during the summer.

Library Director's Report:

Operations/Building and Grounds

We received an updated contract from Access Mobility for the lift. It looks as if it is the same rate as in the current contract. That'll be signed and submitted. The lift will be serviced in July.

Sarah thanked Batchelder Carpentry for construction and installation of the door over the shelving, making it architecturally consistent with the age of the building.

Continuing Education and Professional Development

Jen is one core course away from completing a Certificate in Public Librarianship. She is registered to take "Reference and Information Services" during June and July. Sarah attended the VLA Conference on June 1.

Volunteers

Sarah expressed gratitude to all of those who worked on the backpack project – Gillian, Jen, Steve, and Tonya. The backpacks are now available for circulation.

Sarah is appreciative of all of the volunteers involved in the Summer Meal distribution plans, including the Methodist women who have prepared lunches for distribution next week. Paul at BMU school will be administering the program.

Website and Marketing

Sarah met with Terry Miller on June 11 about the website. Terry answered Sarah's questions. Sarah will be able to work further on it once construction is completed.

Grants

With the end of the Spring semester, Sarah will be putting together a report to submit regarding the **Vermont Humanities Rapid Response Grant**.

The **Blue Cross Blue Shield** grant money has been received and will be put toward bicycle helmets that will be distributed during Day in the Village.

The sunscreen dispenser has been installed.

The **Capital Projects Grant** construction is going on constantly. The Department of Libraries has requested weekly meetings. We are already meeting weekly with Rural Edge and Kingdom Construction. Kingdom Construction anticipates that most of its work it will be completed by next Thursday. Most of the windows are in, the new electrical panel is installed, the air exchange system is nearly complete, the historic front door has been walled off on the interior side and new sheetrock installed, taped and floated. The roof is supposed to begin next week.

Sarah asked NEKCV to purchase some early literacy tech, using some of the monies NEKCV was to provide the library, as part of the **Community Connect Grant**. Sarah came to this idea after contemplating how to introduce tech to young patrons in a safe, offline fashion. The backpacks with the Playaway technology are the result.

Sarah has reserved NEKCV's HUB for weekly meetings during construction on Wednesdays and Thursdays for rotating social services programs. NEK Human Services has committed to coming on the fourth Thursday of the month beginning in July, offering one-on-one support to community members who need their services. We plan to invite NEKCV to a future meeting to share updates.

Sarah met with Gary and Terrence to assess NEKCV's offer of two years' free service, which would take the place of Spectrum. They recommend switching to the NEKCV with two phone lines and to use their 1 Gig level of service. She will get additional information from them about what phones to purchase and some other details, including the timing of getting this done.

Deborah made a motion that the library switch to NEKCV broadband for our two lines of phone

service and 1 Gig of service, as part of the Community Connect Grant. Dawn seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Friends

The friends have renewed our destination passes to Vermont Institute of Natural Science. They will be setting up on Village Day to sell raffle tickets for a quilt that has already been completed.

Programs and Events

The Day in the Village will take place on June 27. Sarah is grateful for the outpouring of support for the event. We have an incredible amount of volunteer energy leading up to it and on the day. Sarah has been working with Jennie to finalize the passport for it.

We have some 30 organizations who are participating in some capacity in the event.

Attendance Statistics

Library Visitors 2026			
	Adult	Young Adult (13-19)	Children (0-13)
Jan.	182	41	69
Feb.	178	48	67
Mar.	165	53	70
April	273	82	113
May.	285	76	92
Jun.			
Jul.			
Aug.			
Sept.			
Oct.			
Nov.			
Dec.			
Yearly Total	1083	300	411

Monthly Totals			
	2024	2025	2026
Jan.	251	304	292

Feb.	267	255	293
Mar.	288	281	288
April	227	275	468
May.	239	325	453
Jun.	219	456	
Jul.	307	434	
Aug.	379	326	
Sept.	285	347	
Oct.	630	716	
Nov.	292	258	
Dec.	479	365	
Yearly Total	3863	4342	1794

Circulation Statistics	Checkouts & Renewals	Ebooks	Audiobooks	Biblio+	Mango
Jan	192	37	94	28	1
Feb	221	27	72	26	2
March	153	34	58	24	5
April	179	28	77	27	4
May	154	31	61	29	0
June					
July					
August					
September					
October					
November					
December					
2026 Totals	899	157	362	134	12
<i>2025 Totals</i>	2934	327	948	93	9

Policy Committee

No update to report.

Next meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for July 16 at 6:00 p.m.

A motion to adjourn was made by Dawn and seconded by Deborah. The motion passed.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:56 p.m.