

**Lydia Taft Pratt Library
Board of Trustees Meeting
March 6th, 2025**

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Lyle Holiday at 5:00pm. Attending the meeting were Dena Marger, Linda DeCarlo-Burns, Stacy Bryck, Stacy Kripp, and Dave Schottland.

Guests: Lou Kern, Phyllis Emery

II. Additions to the Agenda

Lou Kern – Book Mobile

III. Reorganization of Library Board

- Linda nominated Lyle to be Chairperson, which was seconded by Stacy Bryck, and the motion passed.
- Lyle nominated Stacy to be Vice Chairperson, which was seconded by Linda, and the motion passed.
- Dave nominated Linda to be Treasurer, which was seconded by the Lyle, and the motion passed.
- Lyle nominated Dave to be Secretary, which was seconded by Linda, and the motion passed.

IV. Recognition of Visitors

The visitors were welcomed to the meeting.

V. Lou Kern – Book Mobile

- Lou would like to see more of the adult population reached by the library.
- He would like to see this library's online borrowing program compete with those of neighboring libraries.
- Lou suggested that the library pay for a *New York Times* subscription. Dena indicated that this will likely not fall within the library's budget. Lyle is going to ask Lydia's Friends member Catherine O'Callaghan about possible fundraising for this specific cost.
- Lou would like to help create a bookmobile program to reach Dummerston residents who cannot get to the library. He would like to be the driver to deliver books.
- Dave suggested contacting Dummerston Cares to get them involved, promoting the service and providing information about who might benefit from the service.
- Dena reminded the group that the senior lunches at the Evening Star Grange exist, and books used to be brought there to be checked out. Dave suggested that Lou be the one to bring books to the lunches again.
- Dave suggested asking Laurie to include in the next few town emails that this service exists.

VI. Approval of Previous Minutes

A motion was made by Linda to approve last meeting's minutes, which was seconded by Lyle, and the motion passed.

VII. Treasurer's Report

Budget Report

- The library took in roughly \$6,000 from the annual appeal.
- Roughly \$10,000 has been reimbursed by Building Bright Futures.
- Most of Lydia's Friends fundraising takes place over the summer, so their donations may not be part of the current fiscal year.
- Linda will sit down with Chris Brown to sort out of some budget issues.

Warrant Approval

Lyle made a motion to approve the warrant, which was seconded by Dave, and the motion passed.

VIII. Librarian's Report

The full Librarian's Report can be found at the end of this document.

IX. Old Business

a. Dummerston Community Center Board Report

- No report was given, as LTP's liaison to the DCC (Jeanne Bristol) has since retired, and the role has not been replaced.
- Lyle will contact DCC board member Carol Wood about setting up a series of future meetings.

b. New Room Update

- Assistant Librarian Stacey Kripp reported that the Dino Man event last Saturday was largely successful. It was well-attended and well-received by the audience.
- Kids are enjoying Legos and other constructive toys in the new space. Stacey and Dena emphasized that the library has always had such materials, but never the space for kids to enjoy them (until now).
- Saturday's Open House Attendance: 55 adults, 32 children

X. New Business

Town Meeting Report-out

- Everyone attending this board meeting was pleased with the support shown for the library at Town Meeting.
- Three new people have acquired library cards since Town Meeting.
- Lyle is going to ask community member Paul Smith come talk about data collection.
- Dena suggested contacting and consulting with the Department of Libraries about data collection.

- The Select Board has asked for staff evaluations every six months. The next evaluation will be given in April.

Executive Session

At 6:06 the board entered Executive Session, and it concluded at 6:17.

Linda suggested the LTP Board Secretary be the point person for contacting the DCC about scheduling requests. Dave concurred with this idea.

XI. Adjournment

At 6:20pm, Dave made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Lyle, and the meeting concluded.

**LYDIA TAFT PRATT LIBRARY
LIBRARIAN’S REPORT**

December/January Report to the March 6, 2025 Trustees Meeting

Statistics for Feb 10 - March 6 , 2025:

• **Library Visits**

	Attendance	Last month
Adult Visits	166	137
Children Visits	43	31
Total Visits:	209	168

• **Materials Circulation**

	Books	Children’s and YA
LibraryWorld	98	27
LW Renewals	35	
ILL borrowed	3	
ILL Lent	0	
Audio/Ebooks (GMLC/OverDrive)	142	

Total Circulation	278	
Tot Circ last month	625	

Overdrive Via Libby Usage Stats	This Month	Last Month
Total Checkouts	142	311
Distinct Users	26	31
Ebooks	76	117
AudioBooks	66	194

Programs

Date	Program	Attendance
2/11/25	Cookbook Club (Squash)	10
3/1/25	Libray Open House/Dinoman	55 adults 32 kids
3/1/25	Cookbook Club	6
3/3/25	Sensory Playtime	3 kids 4 adults

Narrative

- It's been a big month at the library. We said goodbye to two trustees, Phyllis Emery and Jeanne Bristol. Stacy Bryck was elected at town meeting and we are excited to have her. There remains one open trustee seat.
- The new children's program opened officially on March 1. We spent the month of February preparing both the adult library space and the children's space for new programs, events and activities. It remains a work in progress. The transition was made possible with a lot of volunteer labor, for which we are deeply grateful.
- Our expanded open hours began on March 1. We have made new book marks announcing the new children's program, that includes the new email for the children's staff, and the new open hours, which are: Mon and Wed 10-3, Tue and Th 1-7, Sat 10-2.
- The Sensory Playtime for infants program had a soft roll out this week, and will continue to happen on Monday mornings at 10:30am. Picture Book Storytime will resume on Thursdays at 4:00pm on March 6, in the new space, after a short break to allow for setting up the new program. The monthly Building Saturday program will commence on Saturday, March 8.
- I have hired Nicoal Price to work on building out the children's program parts of our website, and it's coming along well.
- The opening event on March 1 was hugely successful. Many residents stopped by the open house, and many more were delighted by our invited presentation, DINOMAN! Our cookbook club had its monthly event at that time as well, and prepared hors d'oeuvres and snacks for the open house.
- Next book club will meet on Saturday, March 29. This is a new day and time for us. We are reading and discussing *The Lincoln Highway* by Amor Towles. The following bookclub will happen on Saturday, April 26. We will be reading *Wish You Well* by David Baldacci.

- Next Cookbook club will happen on April 8. Theme is “Food inspired by Literature.”
- Lydia’s Friends has applied for grant funding in order to host a speaker series. They will be hosting Meg Mott on March 18th. They have created a new facebook page.
- Our trustees rocked it at Town meeting on March 4th! We are funded to support our new staff, rent, and open hours.

Submitted respectfully,
Dena Marger 3/6/25