

**Lydia Taft Pratt Library
Board of Trustees Meeting
January 5th, 2026**

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Lyle Holiday at 11:02am. Attending the meeting were Dena Marger, Linda DeCarlo-Burns, Stacy Bryck, Stacey Kripp (arrived late, as she was attending to library patrons), Dave Schottland, and Marvin Luna.

Additions to Agenda

None

Recognition of Visitors

No visitors

Executive Session

- At 11:02 Dave made a motion to enter executive session.
- At 11:04 the board exited executive session.
- Lyle made a motion to terminate Dena Marger's employment with the Lydia Taft Pratt Library, and each board member voted in agreement.
- Dena was given a letter of termination, in which she was also given the option to resign by January 15th, which will be her last day of employment.

Approval of Previous Minutes

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

Treasurer's Report

- a. Budget Report
The library owes the DCC rent for the main room for January, but an invoice has not been received.
- b. Warrant Approval
 - Rent for the first half of 2026 will be posted on February's warrant.
 - The town is waiting for insurance quotes from VLCT, at which time an invoice will be sent to the library.
 - Dave made a motion to approve the most recent warrant, which was seconded by Lyle, and the motion passed.
 - The library board will be holding a brief meeting on Monday, January 12th to approve a second warrant for the month.

Librarian's Report

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

Old Business

- a. Annual Appeal Thank You's
Dave will be gathering materials for the letters, and they will be completed and sent out by the trustees.
- b. Town Report
 - Lyle will be contacting Ruth Hoffman about a possible extension for the library report.
 - Stacey Kripp will be writing a short piece for the next edition of The Views of Dummerston.
- c. Building Committee Report
 - Marvin has been scouting some volunteers to take care of regular tasks related to the building. He has also been in discussion with Catherine O'Callaghan of Lydia's Friends.
 - Septic will be one of the larger longterm projects.
 - For now Marvin has taken on the role of shoveling snow from the steps as necessary.

New Business

- a. Report from December 29th Meeting
 - The current working name for now for the new organization is *Dummerston Community Center and Library*.
 - Official decisions about the building and organization can be made at Town Meeting in March.
 - Some community members are concerned that a board of library trustees will only have an interest in library matters, and not the building as a whole.

The next library board meeting will be on Monday, February 9th at 11:00am. After that, library board meetings will move to the second Wednesday of each month at 11:00am.

The meeting adjourned at 11:55.

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LYDIA TAFT PRATT LIBRARY LIBRARIAN'S REPORT

Report to the January 5 , 2025 Trustees Meeting Statistics for Nov 14-Dec 30:

| Library Visits | Nov 14-Dec 30: |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Adult Visits | 228 |
| Children Visits | 63 |
| Total Visits | 291 |

● **Materials Circulation: 185**

| Programs | Nov 14-Dec 30: |
|-------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Sensory Play | 26 |
| Picture Book Storytime | 4 |
| Cookbook Club | 7 |
| Magic: the Gathering Play and learn Club | 20 |
| Book Club | 10 |
| RPG | 2 |
| Vermont Museum of Natural Science visit (11/15) | 32 |
| Special Movie | 5 |
| NYE Party | 42 |
| Total program attendance | 147 |
| Total Checkouts | 239 |
| eBooks | 63 |
| Audiobooks | 176 |
| Users | 32 |

Narrative:

- ● We have begun doing class visits with the Dummerston School and have so far met with the third and fourth grade classes.
- ● We also attended the Dummerston Cares Senior Luncheon event prior to the Christmas holiday.
- ● Our Noon Years Eve event, put together by our children's staff and her volunteer husband was a huge success. 42 people attended, heard stories, did a fireworks craft, did a library scavenger hunt, and toasted a balloon drop with ginger ale! This will likely become an annual event for our library.
- ● Grants update:
 - ○ We received notification that we will receive the Department of

Library's Courier grant for \$684, likely soon, in January or February

- ○ The application for the Summer Programming Grant opens on January 5. This grant is for \$350 and will pay for a program or performer as part of our Summer Reading Program activities. We will likely receive this money in April.
- ○ We should receive our final reimbursement from the Vermont Early Childhood Fund around the third week in January.
- ○ The Public Facilities Preservation Initiative grant application, focused specifically on small and rural library buildings, is due March 31.