

**Lydia Taft Pratt Library
Board of Trustees Meeting
September 9th, 2026**

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Lyle Holiday at 11:00am. Attending the meeting were Stacey Kripp, Stacy Bryck, Linda DeCarlo-Burns, Kate Jansak, Erin Riley, and Dave Schottland.

Guests: John Ment

Additions to Agenda

- New grant
- Window quilts
- Locks
- Annual appeal

Recognition of Visitors

John Ment was acknowledged and welcomed to the meeting.

Building Committee and Tech Plan (Presented by John Ment)

- Linda asked about top priorities for building-related matters.
- John indicated that there needs to be a full transfer of knowledge and information from former custodians of the building.
- Linda has a building inspection report from three years ago.
- Linda suggested that the board needs a process and action steps for repairs and upkeep to the building. High on the list is setting up the oil/heating contract.
- Lyle will reach out to Randy Hickin about a potential list of priorities for the building.
- Regarding a tech plan, Erin created a survey, which is available online. Sixteen participants completed the survey, and Erin will send the results to John.
- John also talked about ways of improving the internet service in the building.

New Grant

- Kate shared about a possible grant from the Preservation of Vermont organization.
- Selections made on "project readiness."
- \$50,000 - \$150,000 granted to recipients.
- Window upgrades seem to be a priority.
- A contractor quote is needed for the grant.
- Linda and John will look into the details of the project, and they will go to the Select Board to discuss finances of the project and how the grant might offset those costs.

Approval of Previous Minutes

Dave made a motion to approve the previous meeting minutes from August, which was seconded by Stacy, and the motion passed.

Treasurer's Report

a. Budget Report

The budget was briefly discussed.

b. Warrant Approval

- \$904.93 on the current warrant.
- Linda made a motion to approve this month's warrant, which was seconded by Dave, and the motion passed.

Librarian's Report

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

- There were 277 visitors at the library last month.
- New program: Scott Farm Storytime – This is a partnership with Scott Farm. There are thematic readings for children at Scott Farm once a month.

Old Business

a. Tech Plan

Discussed earlier in the meeting.

b. DCC&L Usage Agreement

This agreement was crafted by event managers Catherine O'Callagan and Carrie Towle, and it is published on the DCC&L website.

c. Playground

- Kate shared the latest developments.
- There is a company that will cover 50% of the structure cost (not including swings, slides, etc.).
- Mockups were provided for the board to view.
- A survey was emailed out regarding what the community might want.
- There are possible grants to offset the cost of the project.

d. Art Fundraising

- Sales of local and donated art might help offset the cost of a new playground.
- Community members can donate artwork from their homes to be displayed and sold in the DCC&L.

e. Silent Book Club

This idea is on hold for now, as a few new book clubs gain some traction.

f. Committee Report Outs

Dave shared Carrie Towle's idea about a possibly summer concert(s) with local bands and musicians for next summer.

New Business

a. Locks

- Dave shared that installing keypads throughout the building could amount to roughly \$10,000, which he had learned from Dick's Locks.
- Linda made a motion to have new key locks installed in the building, which was seconded by Kate, and the motion passed. This will include fifteen non-duplicable keys. Dave will reach out to Dick's Locks to have the work done (costing roughly \$500).
- A lock with a keypad might also be installed for the basement storage room.

b. Window Quilts

- It was brought to Dave's attention earlier in the week that there are window quilts that need to be installed in the basement. Dave will acquire a quote for the work.
- It was mentioned that the library room could use a refresh.
- Possibly use the current CD to repaint the walls, pull up the carpet, and refinish the floor.
- Dave will reach out to a contractor he knows, regarding having the floor work done.
- This will be readdressed in April, after the CD has rolled over for another six months (and have gained more interest).

c. Hot Spot

Addressed earlier during the tech plan discussion. John Ment is going help design/advise better internet service in the building.

d. Annual Appeal

Dave will send out last year's letter for review/edits.

It was suggested that a pamphlet-style letter be sent with a short breakdown of potential projects and use of incoming donations.

Dates

Next DCCL Meeting: Wednesday, October 14th at 11:00am

At 12:58 Dave made a motion to adjourn, and the meeting concluded.

Dummerston Community Center and Library Librarian's Report Reported at the September 9, 2026 Trustees Meeting

Statistics for August 1st-August 31st

Library Visits	
----------------	--

Adult Visits	198
Children Visits	79
Total Visits	277

Library Programs	
Bounce House	8/1=24
Sensory Play	8/3=9 8/10=6 8/17=7 8/24=7 8/31=4
Magic: The Gathering Learn & Play Club	8/4=4
Arts and Crafts	8/5=2
Little House on the Prairie Screening	8/6=3 8/13=2 8/20=0 8/27=3
Building Saturday	8/8=0
Library Board Meeting	8/12=6
Cookbook Club	8/18=11

Board Game Night for Adults	8/20=10
Lydia Taft Pratt Book Club	8/29=5
Scott Farm Storytime	8/21=14
Total program attendance	117

Non-Library Programs	
Political Update	8/20=12
Private Event	8/8=40
Total Non-Library program attendance	52

Reference Questions	90
New Library Cards	8
Computer Use	5

Total Checkouts (overdrive/libby)	
eBooks	39
Audiobooks	153
Unique Users	27

Total Koha Physical Materials Circulation	197
Checkouts issued	237
Renewals	117

1. **Library Closings:** The library was closed on Monday, September 8th for Labor Day. We'll be closing at 2:30pm instead of 3pm on Wednesday, September 23rd. We are also going to be closed on October 12th for Columbus Day/Indigenous Peoples' Day.
2. **Books on Wheels:** Erin has been discussing the new Books on Wheels program with Dummerston Cares and volunteers. This new program will allow residents who have limited mobility, illness, injury, lack of transportation, temporary or permanent disability, or some other reason to get regular home delivery of library materials. Anyone interested in this service can contact the Dummerston Community Center and Library, or Dummerston Cares for more information. October is the expected start of the program.
3. **Technology Questionnaire:** There are physical copies of the technology questionnaire at the library, and the copies will be brought to the town in the next few weeks.
4. **Biblio+ Service:** Erin is working on setting up Biblio+ with our library system, so look forward to the service starting soon. Biblio+ is a streaming service that partners with libraries to offer patrons unlimited access to 8,000+ titles, including 3,500+ BBC titles and episodes with unlimited simultaneous access. Patrons should make sure they have an active library card to access this service.
5. **Lydia Taft Pratt Bookclub:** The Lydia Taft Pratt Bookclub met on August 29th to discuss *Lavender House* by Lev A. C. Rosen. The next meeting is September 26th at 12:30pm to discuss *Plainsong* by Kent Haruf. The bookclub has changed their meeting time from 1pm to 12:30pm going forward.
6. **Board Game Club for Adults:** The second meeting of the Board Game Club for Adults met on August 20th. There were 10 people who came by to play games! The next meeting is on September 17th at 5pm, and the plan is to have the event monthly on the third Thursday of the month.
7. **Scott Farm Orchard Storytime:** Stacey will start her second storytime event at Scott Farm Orchard on September 18th at 10:30am. October 16th will be the final event in the series.
8. **Winter Reading Series in the Victorian Novel:** Erin has been working with Kate Jansek to set up a Winter Reading Series in the Victorian Novel starting in October. Anyone interested to learn more should email Kathrynjansek@gmail.com or contact the library.
9. **Netflix's *Little House on the Prairie* Screening:** The library showed the full season of Netflix's *Little House on the Prairie*, ending with a two episode finale on September 3rd.