Lydia Taft Pratt Library
Board of Trustees Meeting
November 4th, 2026

Call to Order
The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Lyle Holiday at 11:04am. Attending the meeting were Erin Riley, Kate Jansak, Stacey Kripp, Stacy Bryck, Linda DeCarlo-Burns, and Dave Schottland (via phone).

Guests: None

Additions to Agenda
Brattleboro Outing Club cross-country skiing pass for library usage- Stacy will follow up.

Recognition of Visitors
No visitors

Approval of Previous Minutes
Linda made a motion to approve the previous meeting minutes from October, which was seconded by Kate, and the motion passed.

Treasurer's Report

1. Budget Report
   The budget was briefly discussed. Selectboard will be looking forward to a presentation in late November or early December. Linda and Erin are working on a budget proposal for next fiscal year.

2. Warrant Approval
   Lyle made a motion to approve this month's warrant, which was seconded by Linda, and the motion passed.

Librarian's Report
The full Librarian's Report can be found at the end of this document.
There were 192 total visitors at the library last month.

Old Business

1. Annual Appeal Letter – Finalize
   Changes and edits were discussed, "How can I get involved" section was added, final changes will be made and approved by the board.

2. Committee Report-outs
   a. Building Committee
      - No volunteers have offered to hang art donations. Linda suggested leaving the paintings in the community room for now.

- There is a volunteer to fix the picnic table, but a volunteer with a truck is needed to transport the lumber.
- Someone might be interested in helping with shoveling, but he has been difficult to contact so far.
- Several ceiling lights need replacing. After purchasing the lights, a volunteer will be needed to climb a ladder and replace them.
- Thermostats need to be replaced with programmable thermostats, the building committee will be asked about accomplishing this.
- The swinging door to the basement will be propped open during library hours for safety.

b. Events Committee
- Discussions about shifting room rental rates, more info next month

c. Grants Committee
- Kate has looked into several possible grant opportunities. Grant money may be best used to replace the furnace as soon as possible to save on energy costs. So far, the cultural facilities grant program by the Vermont Arts Council looks promising.

New Business

1. Library Hours Signage Outside

A library patron suggested hanging hours by the door. Kate offered to update a sign that had been taken down.

2. Mini Fridge

Librarians were told this would be picked up soon, so they haven't been using it. It was suggested that they continue using it until the owner comes to get it.

Dates

Next DCC&L Meeting: Wednesday, December 16th, 11:00am

At 12:35 Linda made a motion to adjourn, and the meeting concluded.

Dummerston Community Center and Library
Librarian's Report
Reported at the Nov, 4th 2026 Trustees Meeting

Statistics for October 1st-October 31st

Library Visits	
Adult Visits	161

Children Visits	31
After Hour Library Event Visits	195
Total Visits	**387**

Library Programs	
Community Café	10/4=30
Magic: The Gathering Learn & Play Club	10/13=1 10/27=3
Victorian Winter Reading Series	10/1=13 10/14=12 10/28=8
Library Board Meeting	10/14=6
Building Saturday	10/10=1
Sensory Play	10/5=4 10/19=3 10/26=7
Cookbook Club	10/20=4

Board Game Night for Adults	10/15=2
Lydia Taft Pratt Book Club	10/17=4
Medicare Scams	10/26=2
Scott Farm Storytime	10/16=6
Halloween	165

Total program attendance	**269**

Non-Library Programs	
Private Playgroup	10/11=7 10/25=8
Birthday party	10/17=25
Music lessons	10/4=? 10/11=? 10/18=? 10/25=?
Cribbage Estimated average attendance: 19 participants per week (typically 16–22).	10/5=19 10/12=19 10/19=19 10/26=19
Tai chi	10/6=? 10/13=? 10/20=? 10/27=?
Total Non-Library program attendance	**116**

Reference Questions	49
New Library Cards	7
Computer Use	5

Total Checkouts (overdrive/libby)	
eBooks	45
Audiobooks	120
Unique Users	29

Total Koha Physical Materials Circulation	
Checkouts issued	123
Renewals	42

1. **Library Closings**: The library will be closed on Wednesday, November 11th for Veterans Day. We will also be closed on Thursday, November 26th for Thanksgiving. 2. **Biblio+ Service:** Biblio+, our new streaming service is up and running! 17 people have signed up for the service so far. We plan to have a **Library Technology Drop-In** event on Saturday, November 14th to answer any questions about the service as well any other library technology we have such as Libby/Overdrive, The Palace Project, Launchpads, Tonies, and the Yoto Player and cards.

3. **Lydia Taft Pratt Bookclub**: The Lydia Taft Pratt Bookclub's next meeting is November 21st at 12:30pm to discuss *An American Marriage* by Tayari Jones.

4. **Scott Farm Orchard Storytime:** October 16th was the final storytime at Scott Farm Orchard. It was a cold, rainy day and we were able to be inside the Apple Barn but we had low attendance with 6 people total.

5. **Thanksgiving Break:** The library is planning a few activities during Thanksgiving Break, including an Arts & Crafts event on Tuesday, 11/24 from 1:30pm-3:00pm, our regular Magic: The Gathering Learn & Play group on Tuesday, 11/24 from 4:00pm-6:00pm, and a special Community Board Game event on Wednesday, 11/25 at 11:00am for all ages.

6. **Winter Reading Series in the Victorian Novel:** The group is currently reading *The Mill on the Floss* by George Eliot. The first meeting for the book is on November 11th at 1:30pm, and the second meeting will be on November 25th at 1:30pm. Anyone interested should email Kathrynjansak@gmail.com or contact the library. The library has copies available

   for checkout.

7. We had 165 people at our **Halloween Rest-Stop**! Dwight Miller Orchards donated cider, two community members donated homemade donuts, and we had popcorn from our new popcorn machine, which was also generously donated to the library! Thanks to the volunteers that helped organize, decorate, clean up, as well as hand out treats during the event!

8. **Catamount Consortium Meeting:** Erin went to the annual Catamount Consortium meeting on 10/20/2026. Highlights include a discussion about potentially merging all Vermont libraries onto the same consortium in the future; a vote confirming new board members; and a review of the proposed 2027 budget. We also discussed two potential updates to the CLN Membership Agreements to be voted on in a future meeting.

9. **Grant Reporting:** The library submitted the **2025-2026 Courier Grant Certification and Expenditure Report** as well as the **2026 Summer Programming Grant Reporting and Summer Reading Survey** to the Vermont Department of Libraries.