

**Keene Public Library**  
**Trustee Meeting Minutes**  
**Date:** 12/16/2025

**Board present:** Bill Stroup, Paul Henkel, Judy Putnam, Jane Pitts, Kathleen Packard, Karthik Gowda, Hollie Seiler, Pam Russell Slack, Justin Somma

**Staff present:** Marti Fiske, Library Director; Susan Bloom, Assistant Library Director; Sean Wiley, KPL Staff Liaison; and Amy Kraemer, KPL Head of Youth & Community Services

**Visitors:** Susan Mathews, potential new KPL trustee

The meeting was called to order **by President Bill Stroup at 5:00pm**

**Approval of minutes:** Motion made by Pam, seconded by Judy. Passed unanimously.

- **Correction:**
  - Policy \*did\* meet and they made extensive revisions to the patron confidentiality policy

**Committee Reports:**

- **Finance:**
  - The Finance committee did not meet
  - Donations:
    - \$300 from Florence Lipsky Trust, restricted to book funds
    - \$500 from Catherine Jones, no restriction
    - **Motion to accept donations made by Jane, Seconded by Kathleen**
    - **Passed unanimously to accept**
- **Building and Grounds:**
  - New lighting instrument was used during a recent tour of the facilities
  - Michael Petrovick Architects came under contract on December 1
  - The next buildings and grounds meeting is scheduled for January 7
  - Deputy City Manager, Andy Bohannon is scheduled to walk through the space on Tuesday, Dec 23
- **Community Outreach:**
  - The Committee Outreach Committee did not meet
  - The Trustees plan to revive this committee in the new year
- **Long Range Planning Committees:**
  - Long Range Planning did not meet
- **Fine Arts:**
  - Fine Arts is currently working with Amy to procure more ways to exhibit local school-age artists
- **Policy:**
  - A revised Patron Confidentiality Policy was reviewed by the Board
  - Original was from April 2024 and major revisions were necessary
  - **Motion to adopt an updated Patron Confidentiality Policy was made by Kathleen and seconded by Pam**
  - One point of clarification is that this policy is only about what is currently being

- checked out, not about a lender's check out history
- Proposed language change from Marti:
  - The requester must provide...
    - Identification that lists an address matching that on the minor's library account **OR** they are listed on the minor's library account by name
    - **2. AND** if their name is not listed on the minor's account, proof may include the minor's birth certificate naming the parent, or a court order appointing the legal guardian
  - **Passed unanimously to accept with amendment.**
  - The next Policy committee meeting is scheduled for January 19. Trustee bylaws will be discussed
- **Friends of the Keene Public Library:**
  - The Friends of the Keene Public Library had yet to meet before the Trustee meeting. Their next meeting is scheduled for December 17
- **Horatio Colony Museum:**
  - The Horatio Colony Museum Committee did not meet
- **Cheshire Literacy Coalition:**
  - There is no news to report in regard to the Cheshire Literacy Coalition

**Director's Report:**

- Recent KPL outreach events included Keene Community Education and the Mayors Youth Council
- Dedicated staffing to the Makers Space has made a difference in patronage and usage of the space
- 115 members of our community attended the most recent "High Tea" on Saturday, December 6

**Old Business:**

Several copies of the book, *Our Window into a Wider World* were recently found. This book is given to new trustees as they join the board. It was confirmed that, at this time, all current trustees have a copy.

**New Business:**

- A non-monetary gift form was filled out by KPL staff member, Rylan Christen, to donate a wearable camera to the Library of Things.
  - **Motion to accept donation from Bill, seconded by Jane**
  - **Passed Unanimously**
- Justin brought up two opportunities for KPL outreach in the community:
  - Monadnock 250 (actual name TBD)
    - KPL has plans to partner with the Historical Society
  - Keene Ice and Snow festival – February 7
    - Activities needed and a story-time was floated as an idea

**Possible Executive Session:** No executive session

**Meeting Adjourned:** 6:03 p.m.

**Meeting Minutes by:** Hollie Seiler