

Minutes
Norman Williams Public Library Board
Annual Board Meeting
April 27, 2026 5:00 p.m.

Attending:

- Tom List, Donna Bold, Jack MacGuire, Emily Lev and Marisa Traniello attended in person.
- Denny Wetherald, Priscilla Painton, Mary Margaret Sloan and Bianca Zlatea attended via Zoom.
- Elisa D'Andrea, Emma Schmell and Juan Carlos Gonzalez were absent.
- Clare McFarland was present by invitation.
- Submitted by Emma Schmell, Secretary.

Call to order at 5:00 p.m.

Opening Remarks & Announcements Tom List, Chair

Tom asked if there were any changes to the agenda or the minutes from the March meeting. There were none.

Tom called for a motion to approve the minutes of the March meeting. The motion was so moved by Emily and seconded by Jack. All were in favor with none opposed.

Library Director's Report by Clare McFarland

Clare reported that details for In Full Bloom are all set. Tickets are available at the circulation desk and on the website. Raffle tickets can be purchased in advance or the night of. Please spread the word.

Clare submitted the permit application for a big banner to hang on The Green to promote our Wassail event.

The 4-part series collaboration with the History Center for the 250th celebration is ongoing. The most recent one at NWPL was well attended.

Clare reported that we have a grant to use for the privacy pods. She will meet with Robert Sollinger to discuss the best possible design options. There will be 2 pods located on the main floor at the end of the hallway. Getting the work done remains a challenge. Clare asked if anyone has a suggestion to please pass the name along. Emily will connect Clare with someone.

Clare reviewed the Spring Appeal timeline. Our efforts continue to cut mailing costs, minimize paper and waste. Clare reminded board members to encourage donors to participate in this sustainable approach and donate online or through Venmo. Appeal letters will be ready May 10 for board members to sign.

Volunteers still needed for the Rare and Vintage Book Sale May 15 & 16 plus 3 volunteers needed for Covered Bridges Marathon June 7. Clare explained that NWPL receives \$1000 for helping at the event. Emily volunteered to help.

Clare reported on the Community Survey results. 82 respondents, up from 69 last time with similar feedback: children's room, library of things and privacy pods. Work continues on the children's room including efforts to create quiet homework space for children. Largest respondent group was from the 70's age demographic. An article in The Vermont Standard shared the survey results with the community.

The library will be closed June 19; carpet cleaning scheduled.
There were no further questions for Clare.

Treasurer's Report by Denny Wetherald

Denny reported all good news. Income still ahead of budget due to the exceptional response of the Fall Appeal campaign. Expenses are in line with budget. Endowment is steady. Budget work for next year has begun with Denny, Clare and Jane and they should have it to the board in a timely manner.

Tom asked if there were any questions for Denny. There were none. Tom called for a motion to approve the Treasurer's report as presented. The motion was so moved by Emily and seconded by Jack. The Treasurer's Report was approved unanimously.

Other Business

Tom reminded the board that it was the last meeting for Donna and Elisa. He thanked them for their impact, hours of service and dedication to the board and the library. We said goodbye with deep appreciation.

Tom announced that Emily will be the new Vice President effective immediately. He thanked her for stepping up to fill this important role.

Tom reminded us the change in the May meeting date due to Memorial Day.

Tom called for a motion to adjourn. The motion was so moved by Emily, seconded by Jack and approved unanimously.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be Tuesday, May 26, 2026 at 5:00 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Emma Schmell, Secretary
May 24, 2026