

Board of Trustees

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday Sept 16, 2025 2 PM

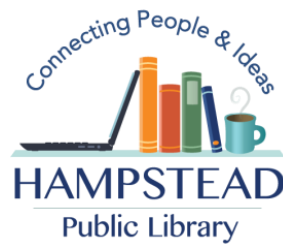
Monthly meeting called to order at 1:00pm. In attendance Trustees Natalie Gallo, Veronica Shelley, Al Cipriano, Bob O'Brien; Alternate Trustee Donna Capern; Friends Liaison Carol Cipriano; Select Board Liaison Joe Guthrie; Director Kate Thomas; Minutes Julie Watt.

At 1 pm, James Cahn from 24Wealth gave the trustees an update on the investments help with them, via video from his office. Generally, we are doing well and our investment policy is guiding them to provide a decent return. Initially at the beginning of the year, we had \$83,500. We took out \$3000 of proceeds for use for library purchases. Income and market increase over the year so far have given us a new total of \$86,000, ~7.32% increase. Al asked about some specific stocks and James noted that the size and structure of our account won't be investing in individual stocks due to volatility. We maintain some international exposure, in keeping with our risk goals and growth goals. Natalia asked about AI and James indicated that since we invest in the S&P 500 companies, we do have some invested in AI related companies. We will meet again in person in March of 2026 for another review of our status.

Visitor comments and questions-none aside from James Cahn, above.

Friends of the Library Update- Carol noted that the holiday decorations sale by a generous Friend of the Library brought in \$978. Carol noted that they haven't seen a quote for soundproofing the study rooms so Kate will pull the notes she has together to request that from the Friends. Ronnie asked if the Friends would consider donating funds towards Hoopla, particularly in future years since we have a generous donation to cover us this year. Carol said it's a possibility. Thrift Shop: \$5,132 for the past month, which was a great month due to sales. Natalie suggested the Friends/Library communication be a bit more defined. Natalie said to relay to everyone we are so appreciative and Donna added in awe, too, of the work all the Friends do.

1. Approve minutes from the August 19, 2025 meeting and Sept 2 Budget Workshop meeting minutes. Motion to approve the minutes made by Donna, seconded by Bob, all in favor.
2. Director's Report- Kate gave her report. Natalie made a motion to approve the Lions Club \$75 plaque to thank them for the \$9,000 donation for the second-floor air conditioning, Al seconded, all in favor. Natalie asked if the Board would be able to meet with the Budget Committee new liaison, Matt. Kate noted the next Budget Committee meeting is Tuesday, September 23rd at 7pm so all are welcome to come to that meeting to meet him.
 - a. Stats – Over 4,500 items were circulated. 5,415 come through the door in August. Meeting room was used 52 times, and the pavilion was used 6 times. 54 study rooms



used. 98 computers were used. On average 38 people are connected to wi-fi. 1,881 e-circulations. 398 people attended programs. 4,462 active patrons.

3. Treasurer's Report

- a. Budget- 2025 updates. AI reviewed the latest document, and we're on track. AI complimented Kate for keeping us on track.

4. Old Business

- a. Sealed Minutes update- Bob
- b. Meeting room policy final reading. Motion to accept made by Ronnie, seconded by Bob, all in favor.
- c. Patron Code of Conduct final reading. Motion to accept made by Ronnie, seconded by Bob, all in favor.

5. New Business

- a. Donna asked about the town strategic plan committee and Kate's hope that a trustee could join. Kate gave an update on the master planning committee and their work. Joe gave additional details on the position. Kate will get more details from the master planning committee on when their next meeting is and will communicate it with the trustees.

6. Donations by groups or individuals. Motion to accept donations made by Ronnie, seconded by Donna, all in favor.

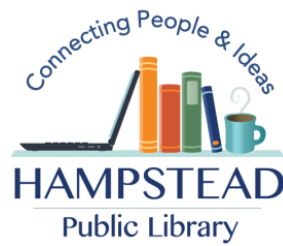
- a. Acceptance of donations in memory of Dan Cheetham \$50. His daughter came in and donated an additional \$500 in his memory.
- b. Money in donation jar
- c. Books, audios & videos from various individuals
- d. Donations by groups or individuals: Donation of \$75 from a patron; donation of \$5000 from a patron expressly for adding to the Hoopla and Libby costs, so we can continue the service. Lions Club of Hampstead donated \$9000 to fund the replacement of failed air conditioning for our 2nd floor north area.

7. Correspondence- none.

8. Non-Public session per RSA91-A:3, II (a) entered at 2:37 pm-see nonpublic minutes attached

9. Meeting adjourned: 3:09 pm

Next regular meeting Tuesday October 21, 2025 at 1PM



Board of Trustees
Non-Public Meeting Minutes
Tuesday Sept. 16, 2026 2:55 PM

Special non-public meeting to discuss Library Director Kate Thomas' performance review for 2025. In attendance were Trustees Natalie Gallo, Ronnie Shelley, Al Cipriano, Bob O'Brien, and Donna Capern (serving for Theresa McTammany). Minutes taken by Ronnie Shelley.

Kate's job performance for 2025 was rated as excellent by the Trustees. Highlights included her commitment to learning new skills and software applications, and her successful management of library staff. Based on Kate's accomplishments, the Trustees rate her performance a 5.

Motions

1. Ronnie Shelley moved that we grant Kate a 3% salary increase, for a total of \$89,960.20. Motion seconded by Bob O'Brien. Motion approved unanimously.

Non-public meeting adjourned at 3:30 pm, public meeting adjourned at 3:32 pm.