



Board of Trustees
Meeting Minutes
Tuesday April 21, 2026 1 PM

Monthly meeting called to order at 1:44pm. In attendance Trustees Natalie Gallo, Veronica Shelley, Al Cipriano, Donna Capern, Theresa McTammany via zoom; Friends Liaison Carol Cipriano; alternate trustee Kevin Hodge; Select Board Liaison Joe Guthrie; Director Kate Thomas; minutes Emily Wentworth.

Visitor comments and questions – Representatives from 24Wealth/LPL Financial talked to the trustees about the investments. This section was on their video call so was not recorded.

James Cahn and Chiraag Kirpalani called in via zoom to update the trustees on the current state of the market and the library's investment accounts. James will be scheduling an upcoming visit to New Hampshire which will include Hampstead Public Library. The accounts started the quarter with \$88,088.26 and ended with \$86,523.56 for a return of -1.78%. Al asked James to explain why 63% of accounts showed negative rates of return for the first quarter. The portfolio of investments is diverse so that any losses are balanced by the other accounts, limiting risk despite recent market volatility. The current investment policy continues to be the best course of action. It was discussed that even though the library investments are on a smaller scale, the account is still treated equally under the SEC.

Friends of the Library Update- The Thrift Shop brought in \$3,360 in the past month. The Friends have funded Peabody Essex Museum pass, New Hampshire State Parks pass, Castle in the Clouds pass, Chair Yoga, the March Tea, new Mah Jongg Cards, the SafeSitter Babysitting Course, critter crates, butterfly kits, and a new giant Jenga set. They will also be funding an upcoming goat meet and greet in the front yard. The Friends will also fund \$4,500 for this year's summer reading program.

1. Approve minutes of March 17, 2026 and March 20, 2026 meetings. Motion to approve March 17 and 20, 2026 meetings made by Donna, seconded by Al, Theresa yes, Al yes, Natalie yes, Donna yes, Ronnie yes.
2. Director's Report- Kate shared her report.
 - a. Stats- The meeting room was used 73 times and study rooms were used 74 times in March. Online resource usage continues to be high.
3. Treasurer's Report
 - a. Budget-2026- 57.99% of the equipment line has been spent, the large amount of the maintenance budget has also been spent, everything else is on track so far.
 - b. The Edward Jones accounts began the quarter with \$52,246.15 and ended with \$51,655.99. The rate of return was -1.13%. Al will reach out to schedule a visit with one of their representatives.
 - c. The trustees signed the Investment Policy Statement required by 24Wealth.
4. Old Business



- a. The trustees signed the final Memorandum of Understanding with the town.
5. New Business
 - a. During National Library Week, the Trustees want to recognize the dedication, excellence, and library joy that Hampstead Library staff bring to their work every day.
6. Donations by groups or individuals. Motion to accept all donations made by Ronnie, seconded by Donna, Theresa yes, Al yes, Natalie yes, Donna yes, Ronnie yes.
 - a. Acceptance of donations in memory
 - b. Money in donation jar
 - c. Books, audios & videos from various individuals
 - d. Donations by groups or individuals: \$100 in memory of a former patron from family; \$50 in memory of Louise Pryor
7. Correspondence- none.
8. Meeting adjourned: Motion to adjourn made by Ronnie, seconded by Donna, all in favor. Meeting adjourned at 2:20pm.

Next regular meeting Tuesday May 19, 2026, at 1PM