

# Almond Library Board of Trustees

## Meeting for January 2026

Thursday, 29 January 2026

### FINAL MINUTES

Present: Elva Owlet, President; Linda Staiger, Vice President; Lee Berry, Financial Officer; Cole DiGerlando, Secretary; Philip Schierer, Trustee; Bec Cronk, Director of Programs; Connor Dirlam, Director of Internal Operations; Mary Kay Dwyer, Trustee; Kathleen Conklin, Almond Town Historian

Meeting called to order at 6:39 pm

Minutes from January meeting reviewed; Linda moved to accept; Elva seconded; approved

No public comment was requested

### Director's Reports

#### Connor's January/February report

(see submitted numbers and report)

- STLS is still waiting on Annual Reports, but nothing has been updated
- Connor is taking time off in early March and has some extra hours to tack on; Bec said the 10th she has a meeting, so can't cover closing hours and will check with Adrian; if not available, Elva can cover
- Still have some problems with budget and categorization; Connor messaged Lori and it was fixed; Bill was miscategorized; will keep a closer eye on the budget and how it's being maintained to make sure things are correctly applied
- STLS indicated that previous minutes don't need to be reformatted, only the ones going forward; Cole indicated that starting with January, minutes are formatted properly; Dylan offered to help with this project
- Connor attended training to learn how to do ILL outside of STLS; STLS is looking into a better system; seems complicated; will have to make a policy because we are responsible for materials if they are not returned, and these materials are often expensive; looking at requiring patron has an in-person card for 6 months, and upon checking out, have to provide ID with address
- Has a web training on Monday regarding ICE in libraries

- Looking into getting more appropriate readings for littles (2-3 yo), and currently looking for texts for Black History month
- Looking into “Unearth a Story” summer reading program books and finding lots of fun/cool stuff; Bec said maybe looking into local history readings for adult summer reading (has an archeology team booked for summer reading for the kids this year)
- Puzzles have come in by donation, so thinking about having people exchange puzzles between their collection and ours
- Looking at adult fiction, juvenile graphic novels and local history/reference section to reorganize; Elva thought maybe Kathleen (town historian) could help; Elva mentioned about getting someone to make the memorial fund bookcases; Bec said she would ask Rayann about theirs at Little Genesee; thought we could start with the ones that aren't attached to the walls
- Discussed the stats related to circulation, door count, computer use and others, and particularly proud of the increased digital stats; Bec indicated that STLS is looking into new literature to promote some of the services, like Kanopy; Connor thought about maybe offering a program on it—Bec said no one attended the Libby one but would be willing to try; Ground News can be accessed through Libby; Stats included Bec's programming increase from 95 to 505

*Cole motioned to accept; Mary Kay seconded; all approved.*

## Bec's February report

(see submitted report)

- Offering Chair Yoga twice a month on two different days and times; Mary Kay gave a raving endorsement of how great it is; Bec has a Youtube instructor, but willing to try a different program is wanted; might be looking for regular yoga with an actual yoga instructor; YMCA in Hornell offers class, so not sure if we need to have more classes
- In conjunction with the grant Bec is writing for garden stuff, Cornell cooperative will be coming in and offering sessions: first will be on starting seeds on March 12; throughout the grow season will work on the other 4 sessions; looking to have people attend (esp Board)
- Offering an intro to sourdough with the director from Belfast library; people will leave with a starter
- Murder Mystery has 36 RSVPs already, and capacity is 56; Bec asked Linda to send the names of people she wants to see if they have already RSVPd and she will check
- Egg hunt will be early this year, March 28, likely indoors, because the poetry event (April 5) will be the week prior to Easter; Kathleen mentioned that is the same day as the Maple Festival in Andover
- Garbage options locally that serve area: Bec thinks LaForge is best option for the amount of garbage we have; if we need an extra pickup would could arrange one

for a small fee; includes no sort recycling; good customer service; *Linda moved we go with LaForge; Cole seconded; all approved*

- CPR/AED–Bec is doing second training tomorrow

*Motion to approve made by Linda; seconded by Mary Kay; all approved*

## Bookkeeper's Report January/February

(see submitted Financial Report)

- Mostly addressed in Connor's report; forwarded the numbers from Lori to Board members; will be tabling Lee's report

## Old Business

Bylaws committee report will take some time; Philip hasn't had a chance to meet yet; tabled until a future meeting

Murder Mystery will be held on March 20 at 7:00 pm; Linda said needs to have a few more characters; Cole volunteered to participate; Linda will have a gathering and character discussion/walkthrough but needs to find a date for this; Bec will handle set up, and lots of the materials are already purchased; menu already planned out; looking at Monday, March 16 at 6:30 pm at the library for the rehearsal; will send out character list to the actors; would like to have more costuming and props; interested in having fake pistols; Cole asked if we would have the sound system in time; Linda said she had it ready and would send it to Bec tonight; Bec said the RSVP asks for allergies and other accommodations; Connor asked about the liquor license and Linda said it's almost ready; Elva asked about who was serving the wine; Connor will be the server

## New Business

Vote on policy updates:

Director Evaluation (*motion to accept by Cole; seconded by Linda; all approved*)

Personal Appearance Policy (*motion to accept by Linda; seconded by Cole; all approved*)

Employee Conduct (*motion to accept by Linda; seconded by Mary Kay; all approved*)

Personnel Policy (*tabling this until we have evaluated all the relevant policies that fit under this*)

Sexual Harassment (*motion to accept by Cole; seconded by Linda; all approved*)

Bec asked about the paint color upstairs; no one remembers what it was; maybe add an accent wall; Cole knows a muralist in Wellsville and will ask about cost; might want to move the community computers to that area

March meeting to be held on March 26 at 6:30 pm

*Linda made motion to adjourn; Cole seconded; all approved; meeting adjourned at 8:11 pm*