Seymour Library Board of Trustees
Meeting Minutes October 21, 2026

I. Call to Order and Attendance

Meeting called to order at 6:29pm by L. Negus

Attendance: K Streb, K Kosior, L Negus, P Pittman, K Sharpe, D Pophal, D Newman
Excused: L Caruso, J Pruss

II. Guests/Public Comment

III. Action Items:

1. Adoption of Agenda:
   Motion to approve adoption of October agenda
   a. 1st D Newman
   b. 2nd K Sharpe
   c. Motion passed unanimously.
2. Approval of Minutes:
   Motion to approve meeting minutes of September
   a. 1st D Newman
   b. 2nd K Sharpe
   Motion passed unanimously.
3. Finance Report
   Motion to approve bills to be paid
   a. 1st D Pophal
   b. 2nd K Streb
   c. Motion passed unanimously.

   October Bill Signers: D Pophal, K Sharpe
   Volunteers to sign bills in Julie Pruss, D Pophal

IV. Reports/Discussion Items:

1. <u>President's Report (L. Negus)</u>

We will meet at Sweden Town Park Lodge November 4th with Livingston from 6-8PM to continue to discuss renovation planning and visioning.

The board's book lovers basket at After Hours: each board member should provide $20 to Libby to pay for the supplies. C Gravetter reported it was very attractive and very popular.

2. Director's Report (P. Pittman)

   Operations continue to run smoothly. There was the anticipated building usage drop off as kids go back to school.

   The home school hour did a program on research methods, and the difference between fiction and non-fiction books. Part two will discuss other searches. The municipal partners truck rodeo took place on 9/25 with 199 attendees. All three municipalities participated. There was a program pertaining to 9/11, including the clean-up, aftermath, and how it continues to live in our national memory.

   Circulation is up over last year. Primarily this is happening through Libby. An issue has arisen: Monroe County has one of the lowest out-of-county costs for non residents to get library cards. This is driving up the usage of Libby where individuals are driving up massive lists of materials nationwide to get holds quicker. The directors are looking at how to deal with this. Patrick will likely be sitting on the committee.

   Fundraisers and committees are doing well.

3. Liaison and Committee Reports:

- Friends & Foundation (C Gravetter): The book sale is going on now. The After Dark event went very well. They raised a total of approximately $7,000, but that has not paid all expenditures. They hope they will clear roughly $6,000. There were roughly 120 attendees, but that number is not yet firm.
- Village Report (S Wescott): Midnight Madness will go on October 30 with trick or treating and a parade. The library will participate in an auxiliary fashion.
- Sweden Report (S Maar): Not present.
- Clarkson Report (T Guarino): We are in the midst of budgeting season—we are presently under budget, so there should not be an increase this year. T. Guarino will be turning over liaison of the library to Kathy DeLorme due to work obligations.
- Facilities: We are still on with the renovation planning. Don's goal is to update the RFP after the November 4 meeting. Don would like to have requirements generated from meeting with staff to be sent to Patrick. At the November meeting, Don would like us to vote on an updated RFP, but this may be subject to the final report from Livingston. Patrick will try to get raw data from Livingston for people who were not able to attend the first retreat.
- Finance/Budget (K Streb): Nothing in the latest reports stand out except the balance sheet shows some sloppiness on the part of the accountants—liabilities and assets do not match. We discussed whether or not we should be looking for a new accountant. The finance committee will take this up in their next meeting.

The 2027 budget was presented by Patrick. D Newman moves to approve the 2027 budget, D Pophal seconds it. The budget passes unanimously. K Streb motions to accept the Dillon Foundation grant, restricted to books, eBooks, and audiobooks. K Streb moved, D Pophal seconded. Passes unanimously.

- Marketing/ Strategic Planning (K Sharpe): None
- Personnel (L Negus): None
- Policy (K Sharpe): Did not meet, but are working on cyber security, bylaws, and trying to get ahead on 2027 policies. Will meet shortly.
- Nominating Committee (D Newman): The nominating committee is proposing: L Negus for President, L Caruso for Vice President, H Wexler for Treasurer, and K Kosior for secretary. The slate will be voted on at the November meeting. If anyone else would like to put for different nominations, they can be emailed to D Newman or put forth on the floor at the meeting.

Motion to adjourn at 7:35 pm
1st D Newman
2nd K Streb
Motion passed unanimously.

Next meeting November 18 at 6:30 pm