

Greenfield Public Library Board of Trustees
Minutes of 7/8/2025 Meeting
Conference Room, Greenfield Public Library

Meeting was called to order at 5:07PM.

Roll call: Trustees present –Jonathan Cohen-Gorczyca, Ann Dillon, Sarah Ahearn Bellemare, Doris Cowdrey, Sam Wood, Bill Benson.

Library staff present: Anna Bognolo, Lisa Prolman.

Friends representative present: None.

Public comment: Anthony Calmeri from the Recorder introduced himself, and that he would be recording meeting.

Approval of minutes from June 10, 2025 Meeting: On a motion made by Ann and seconded by Doris, it was unanimously voted to approve the June minutes. Bill and Sam abstained as they were not present at meeting.

New business:

- **FY26 update:** FY25 is now closed and there will be less funding for FY26. Lisa and Anna have been reworking the budget line items to address shortfalls from the feds and state. Both are also working on the MBLC Annual Report Information Survey (ARIS) to submit relevant statistics to the state. It does not appear that the special grants to help with the strategic plan will be available.
- **David Well's Bell:** This bell was crafted by Paul Revere and given to David Well back in the late 1700's. Previously, it hung in the fire station and most recently at GCC. GCC has now requested move it back to Main St. There is no space at the historical society or the fire station. There is not much available space at the library, but Anna thought it could possibly fit just outside the local history room. After some discussion, it was decided to table any decision until more information could be obtained about the bell's historical significance to Greenfield.
- **Staff updates:** The 14.5 hour position is open. Library is using substitutes now to complete position responsibilities.

Old Business

- **Room rental fees:** Proposed fee schedule for meeting room and conference room rentals presented at June meeting. The current proposal was reviewed, and recognized that it will need to be updated when after hours access is allowed. Upon motion made by Bill, seconded by Ann, the current fee schedule was approved unanimously. .
- **Strategic plan:** Strategic plan has been started internally; Anna estimates a 6 month timeline from start to completion. Next steps will be whether to engage an outside consultant. There was a perceived need to have an outside company facilitate the focus groups. Question of how to fund an outside consultant and which companies/individuals might that be.
- **Building project update and repairs:**
 - Bike racks are installed (both by hand and trees).

- Landscaping progressing. Watering and weeding discussed.
- Construction:
 - Estimate to get solar up and working is \$65K with PV2. DA Sullivan has offered to contribute \$10K to this effort. The city believes it would cost more in legal fees to go after general contractor, OPM or original solar company. This decision will be made at next building committee meeting.
 - Outside sign still not working. Problem with design. Contractor asked for new proposals. Anna and the building committee will follow up.
 - Doris Cowdrey has been asked by mayor to chair the Building Committee. Ed Berlin moved out of town and Tim Farrell resigned some months ago
- **Behavior concerns:** Anna acknowledged that there has been more of a police presence by the sheriff's department and Greenfield PD Officer Smith. She does not see Maria Burge in the library. Discussion came up again regarding safety and security after Anna was physically assaulted by a patron while at the library last month. Lisa suggested a panic button system which would cost about \$1800/year in service contract and another \$1800 to purchase sufficient number of devices for the staff. Motion made by Bill, seconded by Doris, to allocate \$5000 to purchase a security system for the library. Motion passed unanimously.
 - Lisa will review incident reports to see if there are any common factors when they occur (time of day, month, etc).

Motion made by Bill, seconded by Ann to adjourn meeting. There will be no meeting in August.

Upon motion made by Doris, seconded by Sarah, and unanimously approved, the meeting was adjourned at 6:00PM.