

Town of Johnsborg Library

Board of Trustees Meeting

March 4th, 2026

Minutes taken by: Michael O'Mealy & Submitted by: David Pede

Meeting called to order at 5:02 pm by president David Pede.

Attendance:

Present: Carrie Mason, Danielle Bonanno (Financial Officer), Constance Fuller, David Pede (President), Michelle San Antonio, Emily Goodspeed (virtual), Mike O'Mealy (Meeting Minutes March)

Absent: Marlana O'Mealy (Secretary), Ken Weine (absent 12.3.25, 01.07.26, 02.04.26), Emily Stanton, Kerri Zappala-Piemme

Virtual Meeting Policy? Virtual Meeting Update? Ken has missed 3 consecutive board meetings, When Shannon missed 3 consecutive board meetings the previous president emailed Shannon regarding Service on the board. How are we handling absences?

Guests: None

Approval of Minutes:

Minutes from February 4th meeting approved.

Moved: Danielle Bonano

Seconded: Michelle San Antonio

Approval of Warrant: Motion to approve warrant passed.

Moved: Connie Fuller

Seconded: Emily Goodspeed

Library Director's Report: Carrie Mason (Library Director)

Baker & Taylor used to house it in the cloud, but no longer. Annual report to State looked over by employees of the Town, and is due to SALS by March 16. Board agreed to review and mark their approval in a Google document.

Still need Emily Stanton's oath signed as Trustee. Ken came in and signed.

Program stats so far this year:

Date	Program Name	Type	Target	Participants	Special	Location
1/7/2026	Knitting		19+	3		On-Site
1/8/2026	Book Club	Adult Literacy	19+	7		On-Site
1/10/2026	Game Night		General Interest	6	Co-Sponsor	On-Site
1/14/2026	Knitting		19+	4		On-Site
1/15/2026	Movie Night		General Interest	2	Co-Sponsor	On-Site
1/17/2026	Craft Time		General Interest	6		On-Site
1/23/2026	Story Hour	Early Literacy	0-5	4		On-Site
1/24/2026	Trivia Night		General Interest	14	Co-Sponsor	On-Site
1/28/2026	Knitting		19+	2		On-Site
1/30/2026	Story Hour	Early Literacy	0-5	2		On-Site
2/4/2026	Knitting		19+	3		On-Site
2/11/2026	Knitting		19+	3		On-Site
2/12/2026	Book Club	Adult Literacy	19+	8		On-Site
2/18/2026	Knitting		19+	5		On-Site
2/19/2026	Movie Night		General Interest	4		On-Site
2/25/2026	Knitting		19+	4		On-Site
2/27/2026	Story Hour	Early Literacy	0-5	2		On-Site
2/26/2026	Sound Bath		19+	4		On-Site
2/28/2026	Trivia Night		General Interest	4	Teen Led	On-Site
3/4/2026	Knitting		19+	6		On-Site

New program starting, "Death Cafe", a support group for those who lost someone. Beth Maher ran a few sessions in 2017/2018, and approached Carrie about starting it again. Board asked that any promotions clearly define what the program will offer the community as name can be interpreted several ways.

Poker is the next game night and new chips/cards were purchased, and the hope was to bring in new people.

Zootopia 2 is the movie for March; Carrie spoke again about splitting time slot with book club instead of movie night.

Some items were re-catalogued. Marketing was scheduled ahead of time this month with Hayley out.

Swank movie licenses haven't invoiced yet; waiting to hear about Dollar General and Stewarts grants which were applied for.

Senior Planet confirmed that groups can be smaller than 10, those younger than target audience can participate in classes but don't get reported to Senior Planet. Senior Planet has grant money and computer kits so no need to buy computers for the program. Notes from Marlena pointed out that Lake Pleasant asked their community what classes/topics they want to learn about from similar Senior Technology classes.

Circled back to movie nights and asked Carrie whether TOJL participated in PARP (Pick a Reading Partner) at Johnsbury Central School. Carrie said they didn't. Michael explained how last year Marlana showed up, gave out books, read stories and informed parents and kids about upcoming programs at the library and how to obtain/renew library cards. Michael reminded that the movie night promoted at PARP had the highest turn out last year.

Marlana's note mentioned that Indian Lake Library is running a Take Your Child to the library event and since TOJL didn't participate in PARP this year, we could do similar activities to generate interest and participation.

Financial Officers Report: None discussed at this time.

Committee Report: None discussed at this time.

Personnel Committee will consist of Michelle, Emily G., Michael. All three are registered for an April webinar titled "Trustee Handbook Book Club: Hiring and Evaluating the Library Director with Brian Hildreth". Reminder to all Board Members to participate in annual training classes.

Correspondence & Communication: No Correspondence at this time.

New Business:

Hypothetical donation/grant possibility mentioned to David with potential opportunity of \$50K. Board needs to discuss what to do with money if awarded. Carrie mentioned she'd like to install a kitchen with refrigerator and oven with the money, since there's no guarantee that Hey Days will reopen. Michael mentioned that Stewarts and Mobil sell pizza. Other board members don't want to install kitchen based on the fact that TOJL doesn't own the building and the use would be limited.

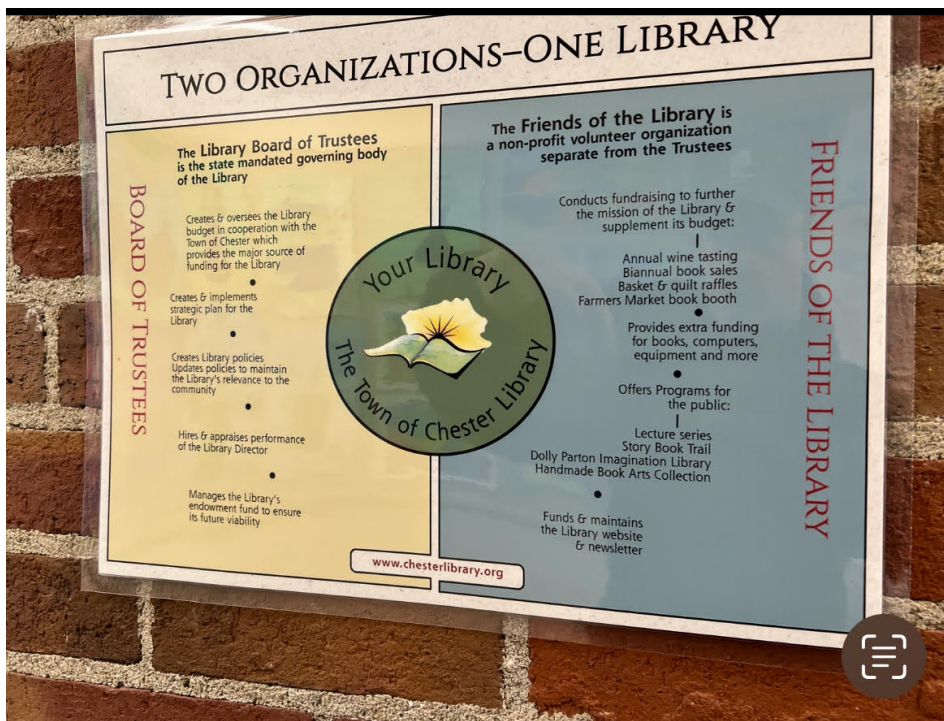
Dani suggested adding other items which can be loaned by library. Emily spoke up in favor of this idea, as well as updating website for accessibility. Promoting a survey was suggested to see what the Community would like done and what items to be made available for loan. Michelle suggested purchasing LEGO STEM kits for kids to have on hand for promoted activities. Michael asked how previous 20K donation from Matt Simpson was spent. No major purchases have yet been made with that money, recent spending was from the TOJL budget from the Town. Michael suggested offering honorariums to bring in different speakers who might not just appear for free. Also suggested bringing in a member from Warren County Soil & Water Conservation District to promote their Tree and Shrub Seedling Sale, as well as the local ranger Arthur Pearlman. Marlana's note had mentioned bringing in Seagle, the company which has put

on past performances at Tannery Pond and Schroon Lake Library. Also spoke about offering cooking and sewing classes. Another suggestion which gained traction was a storage unit on the hill overlooking the library. With a shed, there'd be the opportunity to invest in more books, and rotate them into circulation as holidays approach, as other local libraries such as Schroon Lake do.

Michael suggested we visit different libraries and come back and report what we notice is successful and how we can improve TOJL.

Old business:

- Jean has been informed of vacancy on the board with Anita stepping away.
- Discussed the attendance of Board Members to meetings and setting expectations clearly for the next meeting. SALs Handbook states that members are not to miss three meetings in a row. Zoom virtual meeting was set-up and functioning this meeting.
- Friends of Library Sale. Attendance and profits are down since moving it back to library from Tannery Pond. There is no longer a Preview Party, Bake Sale or Raffle. Not enough volunteers or members currently on the Friends of Library. Agreement by the Board that we would like Teresa, from Friends, to come to a future board meeting. Michael also passed around a photograph that the library in Chestertown has posted, detailing the differences between the Board and Friends of the library. All agreed that posting our own version in the library and on social media would help generate interest in both organizations.



Executive Session: Not required.

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn passed at 5:53 pm

Moved: Michelle

Seconded: Dani

Next Library Trustee Meeting: April 1st at 5pm.