

Hampton Falls Library Trustees

FINAL Meeting Minutes

March 26, 2026

Attending at 4:07 pm were Chair, Linda Coe, Vice-Chair Amy Magnarelli, Secretary Beverly Mutrie, Treasurer, Beth Forgione, and Trustee Tom Shek (online). Also attending were Joanna Meighan, Director, and Ed Beattie, Selectman. J.P. Pontbriand was a guest for the first part of the meeting.

The minutes of February 24, 2026 were approved as amended upon a motion by A. Magnarelli, seconded by L. Coe and all voted in the affirmative.

Unanticipated donations of \$940 were accepted upon a motion by B. Mutrie, seconded by L. Coe and all voted approval. This amount was mostly Humanities payments/reimbursements.

J. P. Pontbriand, resident CFA, Chief Investment Officer at Salem Five, with an office in Hampton, was invited to discuss our Vanguard Investment Account and our Investment Policy. The NH DIP which holds funds for the Town will be investigated by B. Forgione and L. Coe on Tues. for its parameters and rates. The Board needs to prioritize what is the purpose of our Investment funds: building addition, large ticket maintenance or other capital expenses. Hiring an Investment Manager would cost at least .055%. The Board can only spend the current year's income or interest including that from the Vanguard account without prior voter approval.

J. Meighan reviewed her Director's Report. On April 15th, there will be a 250th Celebration program "Pursuit of Happiness" referring to the Declaration of Independence. On the 22nd, a presentation about Bedrock Gardens will be held along with providing 'seed bombs'. The Conservation Commission will host a build bird boxes program. E. Sniederma has applied for 3 grants for the Discovery Gardens as more fundraising and awareness is needed. The Library held a "The Big Watch" discussion with movie clips from Ken Burns' "The American Revolution".

Building: Painting and repairing siding quotes to do just the front or all sides of the Library will be obtained soon. There is about 32K in our Expendable Trust for such a purpose. Jeff DeRosiers will be contacted by T. Shek about the rusty water on our posts and signage as well as a quote for new irrigation (drip?) for the newer gardens.

Gardens: We have ordered a 6' metal bench for the corner of the story walk garden and will label the signage to indicate sponsors. The Reading Garden will be revamped by the Friends and \$6500 will be needed for the Sensory Garden with donations of interesting instruments for decoration and activities. B. Forgione will donate her vegetable seedlings to generate funds.

Personnel Policy: We are required by NH RSAs to give staff 25 hours of unpaid leave for family reasons. This will be added to our policy along with an 'open door policy' chapter using the word 'employee' instead of 'you'. L. Coe will send out the new draft.

Bank: B. Forgione reported on her visit to M&T Bank which the town uses for its checking and interest earning accounts. Because the town is already their customer there will be a firewall so we can do online viewing of our accounts along with 2% interest earned, no fees, free checks and a credit card with a \$5K limit which is all better than our current provider. The Board agreed that we should transition our banking relationships to M&T Bank upon a motion by L. Coe, seconded by B. Forgione and all trustees voted yes.

The meeting adjourned at 5:30pm upon a motion by B. Forgione, seconded by B. Mutrie and all agreed.

Beverly Mutrie, recording Secretary