

Hampton Falls Library Trustees

FINAL Special Meeting Minutes

September 2, 2026

Attending at 4 pm were Linda Coe, Chair, Beverly Mutrie, Secretary, Beth Forgione, Treasurer, and Tom Shek, all Trustees. Joanna Meighan, Director was also in attendance. Absent were Amy Magnarelli, Vice Chair and Terri D'Amore, alternate.

Discussion ensued regarding the estimate from Russ Hilliard, Road Agent about building a 128' long x 5' wide asphalt walkway along Drinkwater Road from the PSB to the Library's driveway. Russ gave us an estimate of \$15,800 including a 'sleeve' buried next to it. B. Mutrie suggested moving the walkway further back from the road to allow for an expanded shoulder to have parallel parking too. All concurred that this was preferable.

The method of payment could be from our donations fund which the town voters gave us permission to spend in 2022. There would also need to be path lighting, a way to allow access in the winter and the costs estimated which the BOS should decide. The BOS will be meeting Sept. 16 at 8 am and the walkway will be on the agenda with L. Coe and T. Shek, at least, in attendance.

Discussion about our 2027 budget ensued. The 2026 budget for the library submitted to the state by the town were somewhat different from those agreed to prior to the March ballot. As a result, the Library's 2026 budget had to be modified for those changes. These changes have been made and are included in the 2026 column for the 2027 budget. Added to the 2027 budget are \$8000 for garden maintenance, increases in benefits and salaries. B. Forgione estimated the budget would increase by \$19K. The Space Needs requested amount of \$8000 for upgrades to the workroom, multipurpose room, etc. could be paid from our donations fund if a warrant article is deemed necessary.

B. Forgione motioned to approve the project to renovate the Reading Garden (paid for by the Friends) and to expand our existing lawn irrigation to encompass the Reading Garden, Story Walk Garden and Conservation Garden. T. Shek seconded the motion and all voted their approval. The cost of expanding the irrigation for the Story Walk and Conservation Garden would be approximately \$5500 and specifies sprinkler heads from the contractor, Jeff DeRosiers. The cost of the irrigation expansion will be paid for by a donation to the Friends made specifically for this purpose.

David Lariviere will be reminded to do the shed repairs, along with the clapboard repairs on the Library building, hopefully before cold weather comes. Certa Pro still needs its final payment and an invoice will be requested. B. Forgione requests that bill by Sept. 14 for the meeting of the Trustee of the Trust Funds for withdrawal.

J. Meighan reported issues with the vendors for the testing of the new fire alarm panel. The installation company, Hampshire, and the previous vendor, Impact Fire, both assumed they were doing the inspection. Impact Fire did the inspection for \$600. J. Meighan will cancel the Hampshire inspection and will also contact Bobby at the Fire Dept to explain the four fixed heat detectors located on the perimeter of the attic. They are currently detached with Impact Fire suggesting that they need to be investigated to find out if they are either necessary and attached to the panel or unnecessary and therefore should be removed.

A motion to adjourn was given at 4:55 pm by T. Shek, seconded by B. Mutrie and all voted "aye".

Beverly Mutrie, Secretary