

**Whitefield Public Library
Board of Trustees Minutes*
January 12, 2026**

Call to order at: 10:00am

Attendees: Courtney Vashaw, Katy Kopp, Cathy Atwood, Mary Ellen Cummins, Sondra Brekke, Jeanne Burdette, Judy Gessner, Diane Ash, Suzy Colt

Approve minutes from December 1, 2025. No changes, no additions. Cathy moved, Katy approved.

Librarian's Report

Facilities (No action needed)

- No word yet from the diocese... Courtney talked to Chuck Henderson of Sen. Shaheen's office and he connected Courtney with Sr. Monique. Courtney will meet with Sr. Monique soon to discuss library renovation land issues.
- Moving forward with Plan B (Lancaster Road access); Plan C would be re-tooling the entire entrance, utilizing the North side of the building. In light of a possible entrance on the north side of the building, Mary Ellen asked if there's been any money used for maintenance on the existing original building and if there is an ongoing list of upcoming repairs or maintenance. Courtney said Stuart made a full list a few years ago and she will get that info out to us in the near future. Most of the group felt that we need to be starting a routine maintenance program.

Financial (No action needed)

- Update: We do not qualify→ LOI submitted for 1772 grant- \$10,000 for building project.
- WOLF has received two DAF (Donor Advised Fund) grants from NHCF. One for DPIL and one for building.
- Still waiting on Carnegie money
- Applied for the following:
 - ALA Disabilities grant for facility and programming \$10 or \$20K
 - Granite United Way for DPIL- \$10K (invited to apply)
 - In the works
 - NEA (in the works) for Poe-tober
 - NHSL Summer Learning
 - T-Mobile Small Towns grants

Programming (No action needed)

- Our CHW program timeline has been cut short by 6 months thanks to federal funding nonsense. We have a LOT to do between now and March 31. May impact Mondays (open, but self-service).
- [January calendar](#)- Trying out some new adult programming
 - Classics book group
 - Homesteading Skills
 - Mah Jong
- Jólábókaflóðið needs to be an annual thing!

Mary Ellen asked about programming attendance and reporting. Program numbers seem to have gone up in her personal experience, especially in light of new book groups, etc. but perhaps the current reporting structure doesn't reflect that. She suggested that we consider having someone go to the Whitefield School to inform the kids of our activities and events. Courtney said our numbers are steady and that she reports different matrix to the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

Community

Dolly Parton Imagination Library is funded for 2026. We are already working on 2027. Lots of great press from NHPR. Sondra asked cost. \$18,000/yr for ~600 kids, \$31.20/yr per child.

Board:

Don't forget to sign up if you're due to run this year (Sondra and Mary Ellen)! We'll need another alternate to replace Jeannie. January 21-30 are sign up dates.

Other Business

Discussion on what to highlight for the Town Budget Report.

Treasurer's Report

Sondra presented a budget spreadsheet and gave a CD update. We have a CD due January 17 and have a few options. Sondra asked if we should roll over BNH cd (\$19,223.50) into a new cd for 5 months. Cathy made a motion to move the money and Katy seconded. All were in favor.

Website Suggestions

The website has been updated, but there are a few changes requested. There was discussion on how to combine the changes in an efficient manner. Courtney made a shared file and asked everyone to add their changes to that file with a date and this will be available to December to make the changes. She emailed everyone the file.

Courtney said she now has the login information for the website in case small, quick changes need to be made.

Old Business

Mary Ellen said she ordered Roman shades the week of Christmas for the program room with the money that was left over from the town at the end of the year. The shades have come in and Brian Cummins has volunteered to install them this week.

New Business

Presentation of Suzy Colt's book of the early history of the WPL
Suzy presented 3 copies of her research on the library. Suzy proposes having a program about Charles Edward Wright who was influential in the start of the library. He was a Trustee 1893-1912.

Next Meeting Feb 9, 2026 at 10:00am

Adjourned 11:50 AM

*These minutes are draft until approved at the next meeting.