

**EAST LYME PUBLIC LIBRARY
MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
July 14, 2025, at 7:00 p.m.**

Members Present:

K. Bolineni, L. Calkins, D. Deeble, L. Fitzgerald, S. Guida, C. Hayes, M. Helms, E. Karanth, C. Larson, S. Lubner, J. Makiaris, M. Moher, L. Timothy, P. Velcofsky, S. Zimmerman, M. Zamarka, Deputy First Selectman A. Cicchiello and Guest A. Garrow

Call to order: Steve Lubner called the meeting to order at 7:15 p.m.

Delegation from the public: None

Secretary's Minutes:

John Makiaris made a motion to accept previous meeting minutes. Lisa Calkins seconded. Mark Zamarka abstain. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: Updated in the Annual Meeting.

President's Update: Steve Lubner was pleased to hear the Director's State of the Library Report: he expressed appreciation to all board members for their time and the library staff team for their hard work. He also briefly updated on the Library Foundation meeting and enjoyed the recent joint meeting with the staff.

Director's Report:

Lisa reported the following:

- Library received a donation from East Lyme Foundation of \$56,382, and East Lyme Library annual fund drive of \$39,134. She added Library is in good financial shape.
- Library Staff share a Thank you note in appreciation of board members for organizing a staff event.
- \$4,800 grant was received from CT Humanities to purchase high-speed laptops for high school interns to use while creating digital exhibits about local history.
- 8 Intern from ELHS class of 2027 working with library this summer.
- 230 children and 200 adults have signed up for the summer reading program.
- Christopher updated on the new online software 'Library Calendar' which streamlines and automates program and meeting space registration.

Committee Report:

- **Administrative policy:** Lisa and Christopher reviewed and benchmarked the benefits received by the library staff compared to other libraries and town employees. While the current benefits package is competitive, they noted the absence of a bereavement leave provision. Mariko Moher suggested changes to the wording in the **East Lyme Library Funeral Leave Policy**. The board discussed and agreed to incorporate updated language as an amendment to the policy later.
Peter Velcofsky made a motion to accept the East Lyme Funeral Leave Policy as proposed Christie Hayes seconded. Motion passed.

- Personnel: No Report
- Public Relation: No Report
- Nomination: Updated in Annual Meeting
- Budget: Lisa reported FY 2026 enclosed, no changes.
- Publication Committee: No Report

Old Business:

- a) Donation made 'in memory of' policy: Lisa updated a cost of tree and plaque in the memory of Abe Fisher

New Business:

- a) New policies required by the State library in reference to the new intellectual freedom bill passed by the State legislature: Lisa briefly talked about policy requirement by the State library. Approved and passed policies must be submitted before November 1st, 2026

Adjournment: M. Moher made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 p.m. John seconded. The meeting was adjourned.

Date of next meeting: Monday, September 8th, 2025, 7:45p.m.

Respectfully Submitted
Ekata Karanth
Secretary

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