

GREENWICH FREE LIBRARY

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

MAY 2026 MEETING MINUTES

Regular Monthly Meeting
7:00 pm

Wednesday, May 20, 2026
Main Library

Attendees: Mary Ann Spiezio, Patrice Abate, Aaron Northrup, Cliff Oliver, Suzanne Seay, Lynne Weygint, Brie Gaynair, Sarah Murphy (Library Director), Sandy McReynolds (Historian)

1. Call to order 7:05 pm
2. Consent Agenda
 - a. Approval of proposed April Minutes
Lynne made a motion to approve the April meeting minutes. Aaron seconds. Board approved.
3. Board Committee Reports
 - a. Facilities Committee (Aaron, Brie, Paul, Patrice) – Teri reached out to Aaron and they will be getting together soon. Brie offered to help Aaron.
 - b. Finance & Fundraising Committee (Mary Ann, Suzanne, Patrice) – Cheers to the Library Gathering at Owl Pen is scheduled for Saturday, August 15th, with a rain date of Sunday, August 16th. There is a possibility that they could have an interior space available. Patrice suggested that we put more work into basket raffles. We will brainstorm a list. Aaron will volunteer to do a life cast (plaster copies of body parts). Board members to think about ideas and Mary Ann will assemble the list.
 - c. Material Review Committee (Aaron, Brie, Suzanne) – No report.
 - d. Policy & Audit Committee (Lynne, Brie and Tony) – Cliff has not followed up with Veronique yet, but Sarah will make sure Cliff has the most recent version of the agreement to present to Veronique.
 - e. Board Recruitment (Cliff, Patrice) – No report.
 - f. Personnel & HR Committee (Cliff, Lynne, Mary Ann, Paul) – Sarah has signed her updated contract. Holiday schedule for 2026 was discussed. Sarah had a staff member asked if we would be closing on Friday, July 3rd in addition to July 4th. She will reach out to other libraries to survey what their plans are for this holiday weekend and will advise the Board.
4. Gill Room Report – Lynn Dombrowski has volunteered for the Gill Room. Lisa Perkins has also expressed interest. They did a recent tour of the Gill Room for the staff. We

decided to offer a tour for the board 30 minutes before the meeting next month. Sandy reported that she wrote an article for the Battenkill Hudson magazine, has signed up for a booth at the Fair and updated the information on Greenwich for the Washington County Tourism program. She may also hold a fire tour on July 4th. As far as requests, she had a request for the photo of the original Middle Falls school and one genealogy request that was a continuation of a previous request.

5. Friends of the Greenwich Free Library Update – Lynne reported that they had a great meeting on April 28th. They threw out some fundraising ideas, including the one that Lorraine wants to host. Ellen mentioned that she would like to write a children’s story about our Library. They talked very little about governance and all agreed to a future meeting on May 19th. Unfortunately, that meeting was cancelled because the Sue Roods and Diane Thomas were unable to attend. Emily Gates shared that she went to Schuylerville’s Boozy Books event and said it was incredible. Schuylerville has a group called the Advocates of the Schuylerville Library. They were forced to create a new organization because the Friends group was not cooperative. Our Friends are currently doing the Boomerang Book Sale, which they do well and is appreciated by the community. We discussed the possibility of having the room open during all Library hours, but the logistics would require further discussion and that was tabled for the time being. Lynne stated that we need a President and Vice President. Diane Thomas is the Secretary and Sue Roods is the Treasurer. Sarah has reached out to 5 or 6 people about taking a leadership role, including the role of President of the Friends. Brie suggested that they should have a meeting and should vote in officers at that meeting. Patrice will reach out to Linda Albrecht about being an officer.
6. Treasurer’s Report – Ellen provided updated reports from QuickBooks Online, so they do look slightly different from prior reports. Brie stated that the TechSoup training was not very good and suggested that there are some very good YouTube videos that are more helpful. Paul Thurston is asking for custom reports. We will give him his own login to run reports only so that he can generate the reports he is looking for. **Brie made the motion to approve the April Transaction Reports, Cliff seconds, Board approved.**

7. Library Director’s Report –

Year-to-date Statistics

	Visitors to the library	Community space use	Community attendees	Library Programs	Library program and event attendees	Early Childhood programs	Early Childhood program attendees	Volunteer hours	Farm 2 Library participants	Pounds of waste diverted
April 2026	3978	46	319	41	642	9	222	166.5	250	956.40
<i>April 2025</i>	<i>3992</i>	<i>41</i>	<i>325</i>	<i>47</i>	<i>534</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>256</i>	<i>162</i>	<i>227</i>	<i>596.5</i>

Check outs	Borrowers	Holds satisfied	New cards issued	Computer sessions	WiFi uses	Libby checkouts	New Libby users	Hoopla checkouts	New Hoopla users	Kanopy plays	New Kanopy users
2128	410	439	14	158	758	470	0	90	4	131	2
<i>2722</i>	<i>460</i>	<i>555</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>157</i>	<i>820</i>	<i>576</i>	<i>5</i>			<i>132</i>	

	FB content posted	FB views	FB Interactions	IG Content posted	IG views	IG interactions	Newsletter views
March 2026	30	15.6K	195	18	5K	241	978
April 2026	30	15K	261	14	3.4K	185	608

STRATEGIC PLANNING GOALS:

Public Promotion

A1 Communications

- I visited the Town Council meeting last week to present our Annual Report to the Community, and I will visit the Village Council meeting in June.

A2 Expand patron base A3 Outreach & Reduce Barriers to Access

- Several outreach events are coming up at which we will have a presence: Battenkill Community Services Touch-a-Truck on June 7, Battenkill Valley Pride Festival on June 14, and Union Village Festival on June 20

Programming

B1 Programs that fulfill patron needs

- Current and upcoming programs and events can be found on our website calendar.
- Update programming notes from Emily and Kris are here
- Library patron and local expert, Sam Carouso Peck, will be presenting a talk on bird mating at the end of the month. Nature programs tend to be very popular and in-demand.
- A small group of kids are starting a once-a-month movie club called the Cineverse. Their first screening will be on June 1.

B2 Give local artists, writers, creators, and experts a platform:

- Local author Suzanne Cohen presented a talk on the new edition of her book and she returns on Friday to read her picture book at Emily's story time.

B3 creative and unique programs that introduce participants to new ideas or experiences:

- Kris began the adult D&D program last weekend

Partnerships

C1. C2 Local not-for-profits and businesses

- The Kindergarten classes are scheduled to visit at the beginning of June.
- The American Red Cross is hosting a Blood Drive on June 9 on the lower level. This was organized by a patron who works with them.
- Barbara Price, who runs our Aging in Community programs, is collaborating with Volunteer Services for the Community Hospice in Saratoga and Washington Counties on a Hospice Training, over two days in June.

Place

- See Facilities report
- Lisa Hayes and I will be meeting soon to discuss everything that remains for the downstairs project.

Preservation

- See Gill Room report

Other

- Fundraising:
 - Thanks to the board for support with the Annual Appeal
 - Plant Sale: \$2,602
 - Yard Sale: \$366, which included \$91 towards the Plant Sale
- Grants: We have received notification that we will be awarded the following:
 - \$382,000 from the State of New York through NY Forward for the development of our back yard
- SALS
 - I hosted the Rural Library Roundtable section of SALS last week for a meeting.
 - Patrice and Brie attended the SALS Annual Dinner on Monday
- I will be on vacation from June 16 - 26. I will not be present at the next board meeting but will prepare my report in advance.

8. Period for Public Expression – No report.

9. Old Business – Cliff will take the document to Veronique.

10. New Business – No new business.

11. Dates of Future Board Meeting Calendar – The next meeting of the Board of Trustees will be on Wednesday, June 17, 2026 at 7 pm.

12. Adjournment – **Brie made a motion to adjourn. Cliff seconds. Board approved.**
Meeting adjourned at 8:25 pm.

Digitally signed by Mary Ann Spiezio