GREENWICH FREE LIBRARY

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

JUNE 2026 MEETING MINUTES

Regular Monthly Meeting — Wednesday, June 17, 2026
7:00 pm — Main Library

Attendees: Mary Ann Spiezio, Paul Thurston, Ellen Fronhofer, Tony Jordan, Aaron Northrup, Patrice Abate, Cliff Oliver, Suzanne Seay, Sandy McReynolds (Historian)

1. Call to order 7:11 pm

2. Consent Agenda
    a. Approval of proposed May Minutes
    It was noted that Aaron was not included in the list of attendees. This change was made.
    Aaron made a motion to approve the May meeting minutes with this change. Cliff seconds. Board approved.

3. Board Committee Reports

    a. Facilities Committee (Aaron, Brie, Paul, Patrice) – Aaron reported that an outlet in the non-fiction room appeared to be malfunctioning, but he tested it tonight and there were no issues. Aaron mentioned the app Ting that is provided through his insurance company for free. Patrice said they would look into it with their insurance company.

    Aaron also mentioned that there are some areas in the community room where the carpet is coming up. Sarah reached out to the company who installed it and they have not come to look at it, so she sent an email to Lisa Hayes to see if she had reached out to Landmark yet. Aaron has still not been able to catch up with Teri to get caught on what she had been working on.

    Sarah brought up to Patrice the possibility of bringing in geothermal when we are doing the NY Forward work behind the library. Lisa Hayes and Paul Mays do not want to put solar panels on the roof and members of the Board agreed. Patrice will ask Sarah to move forward with getting quotes for the geothermal just to see what the savings vs the cost would be.

    b. Finance & Fundraising Committee (Mary Ann, Suzanne, Patrice) – Mary Ann reminded the Board that we were asked to submit ideas for a silent auction/basket raffle at the August Cheers to the Library fundraiser. Aaron suggested we are looking more at experiences than stuff. Please submit ideas by June 30th.

    c. Material Review Committee (Aaron, Brie, Suzanne) – No report.

d. Policy & Audit Committee (Lynne, Brie and Tony) – No report.

e. Board Recruitment (Cliff, Patrice) – No report.

f. Personnel & HR Committee (Cliff, Lynne, Mary Ann, Paul) – We did vote via email that we would close on 7/3 and 7/4. Staff that is scheduled to work will be paid.

4. Gill Room Report from Sandy McReynolds –
Requests -
   - One request regarding paranormal activity at a house on Bleeker Street.
   - A high school class ring from 1940 was found by someone who called in and spoke to Marge. Sandy found the person from that class that matches the initials on the ring. Marge has the man's contact information and Sandy will need to get that from her.

   Other activities -
   - She wrote an article for the Greenwich Journal that came out today celebrating the nation's 250th.
   - She has tours of the High School and Main Street coming up for the class of 1976
   - Greenwich High School History Club advisor contacted her for some tours of Greenwich in the fall for the club.

   Volunteer activity
   - Lynn had 4.5 volunteer hours in the past month
   - Sandy is meeting with Lisa Perkins tomorrow about also volunteering in the Gill Room.

   There were 3 patron hours this past month

5. Friends of the Greenwich Free Library Update – Lynne was not at the Board meeting but did provide a report. A Friends meeting was held on June 2nd and there were 7 in attendance. Officers were voted in as follows:

   President – Sydney Nichols
   Vice President – Emily Gates
   Treasurer – Sue Roods
   Secretary – Diane Thomas

   At the meeting, they reviewed the constitution and brainstormed some fundraising ideas, including a possible Halloween fundraiser. They will meet again on 6/30 at 6 pm to discuss constitution and governance. The Executive Committee will meet at least once per month until they are on solid ground.

   The Board expressed appreciation and gratitude for Lynne's work with the Friends.

6. Treasurer's Report –
   Paul made the motion to approve the May 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
May 2026	**4018**	**48**	**256**	**44**	**437**	**9**	**304**	**137.5**	**206**	**1161**
May 2025	*4170*	*49*	*321*	*46*	*598*	*10*	*242*	*151*	*195*	*1222.6*

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
2142	**408**	**437**	**28**	**144**	**818**	**454**	**1**	**101**	**7**	**149**	**1**
2430	*435*	*412*	*9*	*210*	*829*	*592*	*2*			*124*	

	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
May 2026	33	20.3K	230	15	4K	206	974

I will combine May and June in one narrative report, which I will share at the next board meeting. For now, our upcoming programming can all be found in my newsletter. Highlights from the past month have included the Kindergarten field trips, great feedback on our annual appeal letter, the beginning of Outreach Season (Touch-a-Truck and Battenkill Valley Pride), and the first of our summer concerts featuring the Velvet Wave, which was a blast - over 130 people attended!

8. Period for Public Expression – Cliff and Patrice received email feedback on the Drag Queen story hour from a Library patron. This patron did not feel that this was appropriate and she will not attend any more events at the Library. Paul suggested that a response is warranted since she did sign it. In general, our pride events have been very well received. Suzanne pointed out that this one allowed children, whereas the other programming was for individuals 18 or older.

9. Old Business – Cliff reached out to Veronique and he said that this is done for now. They had been discussing an event and it was suggested that, since it would be a fundraiser supporting the arts at the Library, that an artist design the event invitation. Chris Smith, a local artist, was going to design an invitation and asked Veronique for money. Cliff said that there was a flurry of emails back and forth about it and that now we are going to table this for a while and let things cool down.

10. New Business – Mary Ann mentioned that the Handbook training she sat through today pointed out that the Library meeting minutes should be posted in draft format within two weeks of each meeting.

Paul brought up the possibility of reducing the number of meetings, perhaps meeting every two months instead of every month. We will discuss this with Sarah and we will do a remote vote. Perhaps we just make a change to the cadence of the reporting or eliminate one of the summer meetings since we sometimes struggle with a quorum in July and August.

Patrice mentioned that she was thinking of reaching out to Anne Garrity to help the Library with the NY Forward grant. Her professional background and her upcoming retirement both lend themselves well to being a great fit if she is willing to help.

It was noted that the strategic plan expires in 2028 and we will need to begin working on it next year.

11. Dates of Future Board Meeting – The next meeting of the Board of Trustees will be on Wednesday, July 15, 2026 at 7 pm.

12. Adjournment – **Aaron made a motion to adjourn. Paul seconds. Board approved.** Meeting adjourned at 8:09 pm.

Digitally signed by Mary Ann Spiezio