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PUBLIC LIBRARY

**Library Governance and Nominating Committee
Draft Minutes
October 22, 2026**

The committee held a regular meeting on October 22, 2026 at 5:30 pm in the Board Room and by Zoom at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83148399416?pwd=3FyGowW0tr9sobN7az059tEKduoY1v.1>

Members present: Marty Reid, Chair; Anne LaLonde, Donna Swartwout, Christy Liddy-Repstad

Members absent:

Others present: Bree Drapa, Library Director and Ted Lenski, Board Chair

1. Call to Order (5:30)

The chair called the meeting to order.

2. Review of Library Exits (5:31)

The chair reviewed the library exits to use in case of an emergency.

3. Additions and deletions to the posted agenda (5:33)

There were no changes to the agenda.

4. Comments and questions from the public not related to items on the agenda (5:35)

None, no member of the public present in person or online

5. Approval of the last meeting minutes from September 24, 2026 – ACTION (5:36)

Donna moved to approve the minutes, Anne seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

6. Library bylaws (5:38)

The Committee went over the changes we had made so far to the bylaws and considered some new changes. We made sure the term limits language was included so that the full board could discuss that topic again. We added provisions requiring the Board to conduct an annual self-evaluation and stating that Trustees speaking publicly on library-related issues should clearly state that they are speaking only for themselves

and not the Board. We included a statement that the Board may create ad hoc working groups and advisory groups. And we added a new Article noting that the Library and the City have a Memorandum of Understanding, which we suggest be attached as an appendix to the bylaws.

We decided to put the bylaws on the Trustees' agenda in January. Anne will prepare a clean version, a track changes version, and a version in a spreadsheet for presenting to the Board on screen at the meeting to compare the changes more easily. We will discuss the term limits issue and the question of whether ex officio or past Board members can serve on committees as non-voting members.

7. Generative AI and library collection development policies (6:40)

We discussed whether we needed to add anything about AI-generated materials to the Library's collection development policy. Bree said that if a book is written by AI and it isn't good, it won't make it into the collection under our current selection criteria. For example, it won't have positive reviews, the author's good reputation, or high quality. But we don't want to say that the Library can *never* have any AI-generated content. There may end up being content people want to read, like AI-generated poetry.

Libby recently started offering the ability to filter out AI-generated content in writing, art, book covers, and audiobook readers, so that people can decide for themselves what they want. Bree doesn't know whether there is AI-generated content in Vermont's Libby database, which is purchased by the Green Mountain Consortium. The Library likely has some AI-generated material in its collection now.

Bree is also reluctant to change the current collection development policy because it is based on the state law. The committee will take up the issue in November through the lens of collection development.

8. Other business (6:47)

Our next meeting is November 18 from 4:00 to 5:30.

9. Adjourn (6:48)

Respectfully submitted,
Anne LaLonde, Secretary, Governance and Nominating Committee