



Town of South Kingstown

Library Board of Trustees

Regular Session Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, August 11, 2026 at 6:00 PM
Peace Dale Library
Meeting Room
1057 Kingstown Road, Peace Dale, RI
www.southkingstownri.gov

1. Call to Order & Roll Call:

2. Approval of Minutes:

A. Regular Session — June 9, 2026

3. Correspondence

None

4. Public Comment

Elizabeth McNab brought up an article in the Providence Journal about the Weaver Sculpture outside the Peace Dale Library. There was also discussion about the Declaration of Independence event at the Kingston Free Library.

Mike had been asked by a patron about the Sunday New York Times not being at the Kingston Free Library. Laurel stated it was previously purchased at Healy's News, which has since closed. The subscription will be reactivated and delivered directly to the Kingston Free Library.

5. President's Report

Tim spoke on how proud he was of the staff's work and dedication during the renovation period. Tim also reminded everyone of the upcoming Board elections at the September meeting.

6. Director's Report

Laurel has been elected as Vice-President of the Ocean State Libraries Executive Board. Karyn is attending the ASPEN online catalog meetings.

Liz asked about the July Hazard Garden walk-through with the URI Master Gardener. Laurel reported nothing definite came out of the meeting, but the town is looking at seasonal staff to maintain it. Lindsay questioned the progress on the Peace Dale Library East doorway. Laurel reported it would be completed in time for the ceremony on August 25th.

A. Deputy Library Director position filled

Karyn Leahy was introduced as the new Deputy Director. Tim thanked Karyn for her efforts with the Community Learning Center project.

B. Community Learning Center Coordinator vacancy

There are 10-12 candidates for the Community Learning Center vacancy created by Karyn's promotion. Interviews will be conducted shortly.

C. Trustee Reappointments — Bob Warren, Mike Henry, Liz Kroll

The Town Council has reappointed Liz Kroll, Mike Henry and Bob Warren to the Board.

7. Programming

A. Recaps

- RI Declaration of Independence Exhibit
- Firefighter Story time at Kingston Fire District
- Summer Ready Kick-Off
- Hale Library Annual Book Sale
- *Children's programming has resumed at Peace Dale!

The Declaration of Independence event went well.

53 people attended the story time at the Kingston Fire District.

56 people attended the Summer Kick-off event.

Approximately \$1600.00 dollars was raised at the Hale Branch book sale.

B. Upcoming

- L.E.D. Mini Golf — Kingston Free, August 12th at 10:30, 11:30, & 12:30
- Evening Knitter & Crocheters Group — Robert Beverly Hale, Tuesday evenings at 6:00
- Monuments & Memorials of South Kingstown — Kingston Free, August 26th at 6:00
- Community Learning Center Ribbon Cutting — Peace Dale Library, August 25th at 11:00
- Recycle Right in RI--Peace Dale Library, August 29th at 11:00

8. Project and Grants Updates

Community Learning Center

- A.
 - o Parking Lot
 - o Hazard Garden
 - o East Entryway
 - o Ribbon Cutting — Tuesday, August 25th at 11:00

The parking lot was repaved and striped and will get in depth paving with extra funds from grant.

Hazard Garden will get interpretive signage and 5 restored benches, along with new fencing.

Hilary asked if the Board could do anything for the ribbon cutting ceremony. Nothing needed at this time.

9. Meeting Room Policy

With the new spaces created in the Community Learning Center, Laurel feels the Meeting Room Policy will need to be adjusted. She and Karyn presented the staff's proposal to the Board, with their reasons for the changes. The Board will review the proposal, and it will be on the September agenda for action. Staff have already seen an increase in requests for use since re-opening.

10. Statistics

Numbers are up since re-opening.

11. Next Meeting:

September 8, 2026

September 8, 2026

12. Adjournment: