8/6/2026 - Minutes

I. Call to Order

Members Present: Lauren Read, Dana Visser, Jessica Wignal, Colleen Moore, Prudence Doherty

City Staff Present: Ray Coffey, Nate Eddy

Guests Present: Rachel Moreau

Call to Order by: Prudence

Meeting Start Time: 6:35 PM

Minutes Recorded by: Lauren

II. Public Comment

No members of the public present.

III. Committee Member Updates

Welcome back Jess!

Lauren has moved to South Burlington but will continue serving on the committee.

IV. Library Updates

Programming:

- Programming had largely been on hiatus in May, however resumed on June 13 for our reopening celebration with a visit from Audubon!
- As we move into summer, our 10-week reading challenge is open for youth to participate and kids can track their own participation. This year's theme is "unearth a story" and is heavy on dinosaur and fossil activities.
- Additionally, Kirsten has resumed storytimes and playgroups on Tuesdays and Thursdays, STEAM programming on Saturdays, craft & art making, and food challenges for both teens and youth.
- Partnerships continue to support programming with Audubon VT, CSWD, Lake Champlain Basin Program, and Old Spokes Home.
- On the adult side, we have resumed book club(s) and our monthly writing group and finished the last veggie distribution in partnership with Intervale which we are hoping to start up again in the fall.
- The library was the recipient of a VT Humanities award to host a book discussion of the graphic novel *Charity & Sylvia* by Tillie Walden on July 28. This was facilitated by Peter Burns and 25 copies of the title were given to us for distribution.

Statistics:

- Since reopening, our overall, circ, door count, and registration numbers are all trending upward.
- Circulation: 637 (May) & 1033 (June) & 1600 (July)
- Door count: 87 (May) & 748 (June) & 1022 (July)
- E-circ: 926 (May) & 890 (June) & 998 (July)
- **July saw our highest totals historically for print & e-circ!**
- 134 new library card registrations
- Seeing considerably less use of public PCs in the new space

Friends of the Winooski Library:

- The Friends held their first book sale outside the library on Saturday, June 13. Over $500 was raised from the event! The next scheduled sale will be at the farmer's market on Sunday, August 23.
- To date, ~$500 has also been raised from the Bookstall at Scout.

General:

- Nate & Kirsten attended this year's Vermont Library Association conference at UVM. Both attended helpful workshops, including the Silver Special Collections Open House led by our very own Prudence!
- S.232 was signed into law by Gov. Scott. As a reminder, the bill amends the statutes related to libraries and education grants; to designate the third Monday in October as Vermont Libraries Day; to expressly include public libraries in the list of eligible recipients of afterschool and summer reading funding from the Universal Afterschool and Summer Special Fund; to expressly include public libraries in the list of community organizations eligible for early education funding; to modify the term "collection" to include digital or physical materials wherever that term is used in the statute governing the duties of the Department of Libraries; and to require the Department of Libraries to publish guidance documents concerning grants and funding available to municipal public libraries, and expressly authorize municipalities to bond for improvements to any public library.
- Act 150., an act relating to prohibiting civil arrest in sensitive locations, has been signed by Gov. Phil Scott. As written, "sensitive locations" include public libraries and by definition, "Civil arrest" means an arrest for purposes of obtaining a person's presence or attendance at a civil proceeding, including an immigration proceeding.
- The act does **not** include cases / protections for treason, felony, or breach of the peace.

V. FY26 Review

FY25***^** vs. FY26**~** Statistics

- Door Count: **+14.3%** (8,171 vs. 9,342)
- New Card Registration: **-1.6%** (443 vs. 436)
- Print Circulation: **+60.7%** (7,919 vs. 12,722)
- Digital Circulation: **+7.1%** (9,921 vs. 10,622)
- Programs: **+10.8%** (287 vs. 318)
- Programming Attendance: **+27.9%** (2,609 vs. 3,336)

*****Library temporarily relocated to the O'Brien Community Center September – November 2025

^Youth services coordinator on leave September – December 2025

~Closed May 4 – June 11, 2026

VI. Friends of The Winooski Library

Friends of the Winooski Library

2025–2026 Annual Report (Quick Version)

Friends Board: Rachel Moreau (President), Cathy McIsaac (Secretary), Emily Stoneking (Treasurer),

Llewellyn Powell (Book Sales), Katie Livermore (Community Engagement), Sara DeFilippi (General/Event

Support), and Kate Statell (General/Event Support)

Organizational Milestones

? Expanded and complete board: 7* (Sara DeFilippi to be confirmed at August meeting)

? New Members: 56

? Updated Bylaws

? Signed MOU with Winooski Memorial Library

? New Registered Agent, professional service with Harbor Compliance

2025–2026 Events

? August 10, 2025 – Outreach tabling at the Winooski Farmers Market

? October 25, 2025 – Fall Book Donation Drive

? November 1, 2025 – Two board members attended Vermont Libraries Friends Fall Forum

? December 4, 2025 – Outreach tabling at the Winooski Holiday Pop-up

? March 28, 2026 – Spring Book Donation Drive

? June 13, 2026 – Friends Summer Sidewalk Sale

Outreach and Communications

? Launched monthly Group Chat & newsletter

? Created new website – WinooskiLibraryFriends.org

? Created new Instagram – Winooski Library Friends

Fundraising & Financials

? Friends Tiny Bookshop: $500

? Friends Summer Sidewalk Sale: $500

? Individual donations: $200

? Applied for City Market Rally for Change program

Available Funds $3,808.29

Approved 2026 Donation $1,500.00

Question about investing available funds to grow interest and Rachel said she would look into it.

VII. Other Business

No building updates other than the project continues to move forward. Met with the architects and the capital campaign is slow but steady.

VIII. Adjourn

Motion by: Prudence

Second: Colleen

Meeting End Time: 7:25 PM