Solomon Wright Public Library
Board of Trustees Meeting
Monday: November 2, 2026
6:00PM

1. Call to Order and Roll Call – Bob (Chair) at 6:02 pm, attendance: Claire, Emily, Cristina, Helen, Patience, Carol, Bob, Richard, Julius.
2. Approval and Review of Minutes for September 21, 2026 – Bob (Chair)
3. Treasurer's Report – Richard
    a. SWPL: Richard's belief is on solid footing and with great foundation for support.
    b. Good performance of investment accounts. (Might be a reevaluation on specific investment accounts).
    c. Projected to come in under budget.
4. Director's Report – Emily
    a. Wrapping up the year: working on the town report, annual report, evaluations, budget...
    b. Misc; closing hours have shifted a bit, but Emily's hours have not changed. Holiday hours will be shifting, but have been communicated to volunteers.
    c. Events to be hosted/hosted Oct-Dec; events have been going well.
    d. Linda has a couple of events.
5. Bob - Strategic Planning & Budgeting:
    a. Adult programming (next meeting)
    b. Library hours (looking ahead)
    c. What does this mean in terms of volunteering, additional hours, staffing, etc.

d. Emily has done some research and put some work in to review the numbers.

6. Committee updates
    a. Fund Raising – Richard
        i. Past two/three years fundraising goals have been eclipsed, but Richard has been lowering the quantity and we have been reaching and overcoming the goal.
        ii. Event and tote bags helped place SWLP on the radar; an organization that people feel a part of and that gives back. Post-event donations have come back. (Comes back to strategic planning).
        iii. Estate Planning
        iv. Julius' Idea: Use the Painting to create a puzzle and use it as fundraising.
    b. Event Planning – Richard (October's Event)
    c. Landscape and Maintenance – Julius / Bob
        i. Possible security cameras: Richard will review what the Bennington Library used. Also reviewing other options.
        ii. Bob will continue to review the memorial options (granite, something in the ground)
        iii. Need to call a Landscaping company or someone: Pembroke will not do it.
            1. Emily will call the Faith church family boys to chop things up; in the spring a landscaping company can come.
7. Board discussion / vote, relating to Town Meeting Budget Proposal, how to structure
    a. DIvision of the pot (45, or 30 and 15)
        i. Operation and Maintenance 15 / Director's Salary 30
        ii. A vote was held and it was decided unanimously to stay with the same split request as last year.
        iii. How are we going to be messaging the town? Front Porch Forum, Bennington Banner, Social Media (?)

1. Creating a Publicity Committee(?)

8. Any additional business to discuss
    a. Library hours going forward - Bob
        i. Bob suggests increasing hours on Saturdays and adds hours on Tue/or/Thu
        ii. Richard talked to Emily about extending Saturday hours (not much enthusiasm for volunteers, but can work out with different shifts), and add a late Thursday a month or something similar
        iii. Appreciation Gifts: YEY
    b. Richard will review the budget for the next meeting.
    c. Winter decor.