

When: 6:00p, Monday, September 22, 2025 / Where: Zoom

Attendees: Gretchen Wetherby, Jim Martineau, Lydia Ievins, Pam Allan, Miryam Vesset, Susan Dorais, Tamara Kaplan, Tricia Perham, Will Quale / Library Director: Caitlin Kelley

6:02 Call to order

Public comments — nope

Minutes from 8/25/25 and 9/4/25 approved

6:04 Director's report —

- Food pantry —CK: talking about purchasing from Red Fire's winter CSA. Tom from Brick House, Mary from Heartwings, working together on new grant now, will prepare a letter of support for them. WQ: collab w Stone Soup's new soup CSA? TP: food has to be prepared in commercial kitchen? CK: right, can't bake for it, but can bring in your garden produce.
- Lib user videos — TP: are we including people who use the libs in non-traditional ways? Food pantry, maybe a food-pickup volunteer? Folks who come in to read newspaper? CK: first interview this morning, Polly Billiel, talked about how we could use add'l community space: Girl Scouts used to meet in Carnegie basement. Will be interviewing Nancy + Vicki together, will ask them to talk about add'l volunteer work they do, e.g. grounds. We did get a great video from Jo Comerford.
- Carnegie basement radon —CK bought a radon detector for the basement, and our levels are a little high. Discussion of other testing options.
- Oral history grant — upcoming event at Congreg Church so it's fully accessible.

6:22 LBSC —

- Joint meetings — Trustees + LBSC together, avoiding miscommunication when decisions needed.
- Entry — at today's weekly check-in, concluded that center (Ave A) entry not practical.
- Basement — cost of basement space, tradeoffs, takes away from roof garden space. Did ascertain that electrical/mechanical could be in a basement. Hoping to decide yes/no on basement this Thurs.

6:30 Community Outreach —

- Scheduling mtg for early Oct. Had first interview this morning. Walking tours are coming up. Lisa Davol working on a possible projection of the bldg on Ave A.
- Neighborhood meetings — setting up smaller community meetings for neighborhood/village discussions; people more likely to show up at a neighbor's backyard where there's food. CK: Lake Pleasant has a monthly community mtg. Checking w CNZ re: whether housing authority has any spaces we could use. PA: my neighborhood having a "porch crawl" on 10/13.
- School outreach — CK: not yet. When I've tabled at family events, people have been really receptive. Maybe some notices in backpacks. TK: announcements? bulletins? coloring book thing? maybe a coloring contest? get the senior center to judge them? CK: we did the "design your own lib" activity last year, was very popular. Will see if Angela can come up with something. MV: kids love to color; they don't do it as much in the digital age. TK: people of all ages are into coloring these days.

6:37 Strategic Planning — meeting to be scheduled soon, work on next year's action plan, probably similar to this year's.

Montague Public Libraries Trustees

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6:38 Building — meeting Thu 10/2, 10a. CK + TP + Sam Urkiel (new DPW superintendant) will meet either before or after the full cmte mtg. Topics: improvements that have already been approved, ADA stuff, MF sidewalk, water in basement of Carnegie.

6:41 Personnel — nope

6:41 Budget — nothing until after special town mtg

6:41 Secretary — nothing to report

6:41 Friends — supported the open houses. Put together gift bags for lib signup month that included \$50 gift card to Food City, moose bag. Also supporting community fair next Saturday, oral history fundraiser on 11/18.

6:43 Discussion: MF food bank on Saturdays — allow Friends to volunteer to open the MF lib for an hour on Saturdays. Pros/cons of which door to use; they can decide which they are most comfortable with. Suggest they do it as a pilot program for a month; approved unanimously.

6:51 Discussion: Computer and internet use policy — after some paring down and wordsmithing, approved unanimously.

7:10 Items not anticipated — nope

7:10 Upcoming meetings:

- LBSC + Full Board — Thu, 9/25/25, 4:30p on Zoom
- Full Board — Mon, 11/3/25, 6:30p on Zoom

7:17 Adjourned

Documents reviewed: Director's report, Youth services highlights x2, Computer/internet use policy draft

Respectfully submitted,

lydia ievins ∴ Secretary ∴ Montague Public Libraries Trustees