

Rye Public Library Board of Trustees

DRAFT

Minutes for public session, Tuesday August 19, 2025,

**Present:** Trustees Michael Moody, Joe Marttila, JoAnn Hodgdon, Julie Tucker, Victor Azzi, Interim Library Director Shirley Barron, Jess Ryan, Youth Room Director, Julia Greene, Youth Room Librarian and Joe Tucker HVAC committee.

Meeting was called to order at 9:04 am by JoAnn Hodgdon. Pledge was said.

New Interim Director Shirley Barron is introduced.

Joe Tucker and Victor Azzi give HVAC committee report/update on HVAC (Dowling) and roof repair (Star Island) projects. They will ensure Shirley is kept informed of work schedule and any interference it may cause with library operations and coordinate schedules. Joe Martilla will remove old, unused snowblower from existing shelter and take it to the DPW. Victor Azzi and Joe Tucker will reach out to neighbor regarding removal of pine trees.

**Public Comment:** Numerous comments from public on director resignation, library policy and staff letter to Seacoast Online.

**Review of Minutes:** Julie Tucker hands out posted draft minutes dating back to June for review. Trustees will review for next meeting.

Julia Greene requests to use hospitality funding for annual staff get-together. Trustees agree to use of funds for bowling, pizza and non-alcoholic drinks.

**Financial Report:** Mike Moody presents financial report states we are in line to stay on budget. Jess requests that staff continue to receive up to date spending tallies and will provide Shirley with a copy of what former Director Richmond previously sent. Shirley will continue to send out spending record in future. Discussion around on-going efforts to obtain balances and interests on library trust funds. Julie connected with Alcia Griffin, new Financial Director for the Town and learned trust funds are now being worked on by new Trustee of the Trust Funds bookkeeper, Denise Cutler. Mike will send an email to Denise Cutler, Alicia Griffin and Trustees of the Trust Funds to explain specific library issues and requesting our need for current balances, amount of income and when it will be distributed.

Motion to request \$10,000 from RPL Building Maintenance Expendable Trust Balance for upcoming payment to Star Island contractor by Mike Moody, seconded by JoAnn Hodgson and approved.

Discussion around need for more part time help in the adult department. Shirley will write up a job description for a part time adult library assistant for trustees to review.

Shirley will call Primex regarding policy of use of library for evening events by outside groups. (now that library is closed at 6pm). Jess will send Shirley list of night programs. Shirley will provide Friends of the Rye Library with usage numbers of museum passes for a fiscal year.

JoAnn will reach out to Eric Maher to set up Right to Know training after September 23 meeting.

Motion at 10:55 by Joe Martilla, seconded by Julie Tucker to go into non-public session according to RSA 91-A:3 II(c) Reputation. Roll Call: Moody-Yes, Hodgdon-Yes, Azzi-Yes, Marttila- Yes, Tucker-Yes. Also present Shirley Barron.

Motion at 11:15 to come out of non-public by Joe Marttila, seconded by Mike Moody and approved.

**Upcoming meetings:** Tuesday September 23, 9:00am Tuesday October 21, 9:00 am, Tuesday, November 18, 9:00am and Tuesday, December 16, 9:00am

Meeting adjourned at 11:16

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Tucker, Secretary