

WASHBURN MEMORIAL LIBRARY

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

OCTOBER 3, 2019, MEETING NOTES

Present were: Londa Brown, Rita Kingsbury, Laurie Blackstone, Charlotte Griffin, Gary Cole, Heidi Silver, Beverly Turner, Donna Turner--Town Manager, and Lois Walton--Librarian.

Chairperson, Rita Kingsbury, called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m.

Secretary's Report: Bev read the minutes from the September 5, 2019, meeting. Londa made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Laurie seconded the motion; so voted.

Financial Report: The financials were reviewed through September 30, 2019, and things are looking okay overall. Laurie made a motion to accept the financial reports as presented. Londa seconded the motion; so voted.

Librarian's Report: The librarian's report regarding patrons, circulation, and computer usage was reviewed.

Gary Cole had asked to be put on the agenda. He gave a report regarding the history of the library and some of his thoughts regarding the By-Laws and the Board of Trustees.

Old Business:

- A. Another discussion was held regarding the possibility of changing the library hours, maybe to include Saturdays. It was decided that we will ask on the town's website and on Facebook to get feedback from the public and discuss it again in November.
- B. We are trying to determine what hours to have Ye Olde Book Shoppe open. Laurie made a motion to allow people to shop at Ye Olde Book Shoppe during library hours. Gary seconded the motion; so voted.
- C. There is still no information or update on the 501c3 status.
- D. The new lighting has been installed and is great.

- E. We have been discussing a new children's section for downstairs in the library, and Rita and Londa have been gathering information for that project. PC Woodworking has given us a quote of \$4,100.00 for 3 free-standing maple book shelves and 2 wall-mounted book shelves. These will match the cabinets that we already have. Gary made a motion that the Library Board of Trustees consider building a children's area within the confines of our building. Heidi seconded the motion; so voted. Gary then made a motion that the Library Board of Trustees designate an area about one-third the size of the downstairs stack room to be used as a children's center. Charlotte seconded the motion; so voted.

New Business:

- A. Janet Peary has asked to be replaced as the substitute librarian. We will keep our ears open, but perhaps things will change for Janet that will allow her to keep filling in. Londa made a motion that we continue as we have been with Rita and Londa filling in, and that we talk with Janet to let her know the Board's thoughts about keeping her on. Laurie seconded the motion; so voted.
- B. The book club is struggling. They only have four members and that is not enough for discussions. We will put information on social media and ask about dates and times that might be better than others. We will table this until the next meeting.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, November 7, 2019, at 5:00 p.m.

At 6:20 p.m. Bev made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Laurie seconded the motion; so voted.

Respectfully submitted,

Beverly Turner, Secretary

Circulation Statistics By Item Report Class : 09/01/2019 to 09/30/2019

Item Report Class	Checked In	Checked Out	Renewed	In-House Use	Booked
000 - 099	1	2	0	0	0
100 - 199	1	0	0	0	0
200 - 299	0	2	0	0	0
300 - 399	1	3	0	0	0
400 - 499	0	0	0	0	0
500 - 599	3	1	0	0	0
600 - 699	3	9	4	0	0
700 - 799	1	3	0	0	0
800 - 899	0	0	0	0	0
900 - 999	3	2	0	0	0
Audio Book	2	2	0	0	0
Biography	0	0	0	0	0
Collective Biography	0	0	0	0	0
Computers	0	0	0	0	0
Easy Book	53	52	10	0	0
eBook	0	0	0	0	0
Fiction	50	44	18	0	0
J Audio Books	2	0	0	0	0
J Biography	0	0	0	0	0
J Collective Biography	0	0	0	0	0
J Fiction	38	29	3	0	0
J Non-Fiction	8	9	0	0	0
Kit	0	0	0	0	0
Magazine	7	10	0	0	0
Reference	0	0	0	0	0
Undefined	3	0	0	0	0
Video	7	9	0	0	0
Total	183	177	35	0	0

Circulation Statistics By Patron Report Class : 09/01/2019 to 09/30/2019

Patron Report Class	Checked In	Checked Out	Renewed	Booked
Non-Resident Adult	15	17	2	0
Non-Resident Juvenile	0	0	0	0
Resident Adult	112	99	28	0
Resident Juvenile	55	58	5	0
Staff	1	3	0	0
Teacher	0	0	0	0
Total	183	177	35	0

Sheet11

June 2019	P	R	C	July 2019	P	R	C	Aug 2019	P	R	C	Sept 2019	P	R	C	Oct 2019	P
1	x	x	x	1	15	0	5	1	13	0	18	1	x	x	x	1	6
2	x	x	x	2	17	0	14	2	8	0	12	2	x	x	x	2	
3	12	0	4	3	7	1	7	3	x	x	x	3	18	0	7	3	
4	10	0	8	4	x	x	x	4	x	x	x	4	17	1	13	4	
5	27	0	5	5	10	3	21	5	13	0	8	5	11	0	4	5	x
6	18	0	8	6	x	x	x	6	18	0	27	6	9	0	11	6	x
7	18	0	13	7	x	x	x	7	13	0	10	7	x	x	x	7	
8	x	x	x	8	17	0	16	8	19	0	16	8	x	x	x	8	
9	x	x	x	9	26	1	27	9	7	0	11	9	22	0	25	9	
10	12	0	7	10	14	1	11	10	x	x	x	10	12	0	6	10	
11	8	3	13	11	9	0	17	11	x	x	x	11	11	0	9	11	
12	4	3	4	12	15	0	11	12	23	0	14	12	10	0	0	12	x
13	24	0	17	13	x	x	x	13	28	0	31	13	12	0	4	13	x
14	38	1	20	14	x	x	x	14	6	0	1	14	x	x	x	14	x
15	x	x	x	15	18	1	5	15	37	0	14	15	x	x	x	15	
16	x	x	x	16	21	0	31	16	33	0	3	16				16	
17	37	0	16	17	18	0	14	17	66	0	16	17				17	
18	58	0	15	18	14	1	11	18	x	x	x	18	9	0	9	18	
19	16	0	13	19	6	0	8	19	18	2	26	19	13	2	20	19	x
20	18	0	9	20	x	x	x	20	16	0	2	20	15	0	19	20	x
21	17	0	17	21	x	x	x	21	20	1	6	21	x	x	x	21	
22	x	x	x	22	25	0	25	22	11	0	1	22	x	x	x	22	
23	x	x	x	23	21	0	22	23	17	0	7	23	8	0	4	23	
24	15	2	7	24	14	0	24	24	x	x	x	24	7	1	6	24	
25	15	0	7	25	10	0	4	25	x	x	x	25	8	2	13	25	
26	6	1	6	26	19	0	16	26	18	0	24	26	8	0	13	26	x
27	11	0	8	27	x	x	x	27	19	4	17	27	17	0	33	27	x
28	16	0	7	28	x	x	x	28	11	0	9	28	x	x	x	28	
29	x	x	x	29	14	0	15	29	14	0	15	29	x	x	x	29	
30	x	x	x	30	35	0	18	30	5	0	3	30	13	0	25	30	
				31				31	x	x	x					31	
Total	380	10	204	Total	345	5	322	Total	433	7	291	Total	220	6	211	Total	

Circulation Statistics By Item Circulation Class : 01/01/2019 to 10/03/2019

Item Circulation Class	Checked In	Checked Out	Renewed	In-House Use	Booked
Audio	16	16	2	0	0
Circulation - Books	1611	1704	402	0	0
Computers	0	0	0	0	0
VHS/DVDs	127	123	44	0	0
Total	1754	1843	448	0	0

Collection Age Report

Year	Count	Percentage By Count	Total Cost	Avg Cost	Percentage By Cost
Unknown	370	2.09	4289.19	17.65	1.65
2019	121 <i>added</i>	0.68	2936.65	24.89	1.13
2018	212	1.20	4683.66	24.52	1.80
2017	301	1.70	7406.15	25.81	2.85
2016	306	1.73	<i>2</i> 77962.10	264.28	29.99
2015	262	1.48	<i>u</i> 5487.87	22.13	2.11
2014	212	1.20	3937.04	20.61	1.51
2013	290	1.64	4861.22	19.37	1.87
2012	313	1.77	4901.84	19.61	1.89
2011	295	1.67	4089.01	16.97	1.57
2010	245	1.39	5654.10	29.45	2.18
2009	347	1.96	5583.63	19.73	2.15
2008	336	1.90	6595.98	22.28	2.54
2007	483	2.73	<i>2</i> 10518.10	23.37	4.05
2006	513	2.90	9237.44	19.24	3.55
2005	505	2.86	<i>2</i> 10565.60	22.62	4.06
2004	502	2.84	<i>2</i> 8303.61	17.67	3.19
2003	504	2.85	7981.05	16.70	3.07
2002	518	2.93	8144.32	16.93	3.13
2001	498	2.82	<i>2</i> 24021.20	54.59	9.24
2000	415	2.35	<i>u</i> 4958.61	16.15	1.91
1999	511	2.89	5431.38	15.26	2.09
1998	499	2.82	3700.51	14.34	1.42
1997	532	3.01	3093.20	15.09	1.19
1996	448	2.53	2447.77	13.83	0.94
1995	483	2.73	2114.96	13.47	0.81
1994	464	2.62	2236.11	14.43	0.86
1993	441	2.49	1946.86	13.52	0.75
1992	459	2.60	1860.35	12.57	0.72
1991	371	2.10	1368.78	13.69	0.53
1990	364	2.06	1487.75	14.17	0.57
1989	328	1.85	866.07	11.10	0.33
1988	372	2.10	1268.23	12.43	0.49
1987	335	1.89	634.30	12.44	0.24
1986	287	1.62	562.32	12.78	0.22
1985	256	1.45	621.76	12.19	0.24
1984	220	1.24	569.22	13.88	0.22
1983	208	1.18	226.59	12.59	0.09
1982	212	1.20	300.57	10.73	0.12
1981	167	0.94	212.44	14.16	0.08
1980	166	0.94	155.43	14.13	0.06

1979	171	0.97	1383.00	172.88	0.53
1978	144	0.81	107.84	10.78	0.04
1977	134	0.76	170.12	11.34	0.07
1976	139	0.79	157.32	14.30	0.06
1975	93	0.53	43.89	10.97	0.02
1974	111	0.63	64.26	8.03	0.02
1973	115	0.65	101.54	11.28	0.04
1972	105	0.59	145.85	16.21	0.06
1971	89	0.50	198.15	18.01	0.08
1970	102	0.58	133.80	13.38	0.05
1969	100	0.57	96.84	12.11	0.04
1968	87	0.49	196.90	28.13	0.08
1967	81	0.46	115.74	16.53	0.04
1966	96	0.54	128.90	18.41	0.05
1965	92	0.52	195.61	16.30	0.08
1964	104	0.59	71.75	14.35	0.03
1963	91	0.51	181.34	18.13	0.07
1962	99	0.56	146.60	20.94	0.06
1961	83	0.47	120.25	15.03	0.05
1960	74	0.42	129.17	16.15	0.05
1959	57	0.32	64.49	16.12	0.02
1958	44	0.25	47.90	15.97	0.02
1957	54	0.31	101.40	14.49	0.04
1956	41	0.23	48.40	24.20	0.02
1955	41	0.23	65.00	21.67	0.03
1954	38	0.21	95.94	15.99	0.04
1953	43	0.24	62.00	20.67	0.02
1952	36	0.20	45.00	22.50	0.02
1951	27	0.15	19.95	19.95	0.01
1950	29	0.16	110.00	27.50	0.04
1949	24	0.14	52.49	17.50	0.02
1948	27	0.15	138.74	23.12	0.05
1947	19	0.11	71.95	23.98	0.03
1946	23	0.13	108.90	21.78	0.04
1945	20	0.11	66.54	16.64	0.03
1944	16	0.09	74.95	18.74	0.03
1943	23	0.13	30.00	30.00	0.01
1942	18	0.10	74.90	18.73	0.03
1941	26	0.15	81.29	20.32	0.03
1940	19	0.11	45.00	22.50	0.02
1939	15	0.08	46.00	23.00	0.02
1938	17	0.10	82.45	20.61	0.03
1937	24	0.14	99.49	19.90	0.04
1936	17	0.10	50.00	25.00	0.02

1935	16	0.09	39.99	20.00	0.02
1934	15	0.08	30.00	30.00	0.01
1933	9	0.05	66.98	22.33	0.03
1932	7	0.04	30.00	30.00	0.01
1931	8	0.05	50.00	25.00	0.02
1930	8	0.05	30.00	30.00	0.01
1929	6	0.03	30.00	30.00	0.01
1928	8	0.05	48.49	24.25	0.02
1927	13	0.07	42.29	14.10	0.02
1926	8	0.05	30.00	30.00	0.01
1925	6	0.03	44.95	22.48	0.02
1924	8	0.05	30.00	30.00	0.01
1923	5	0.03	30.00	30.00	0.01
1922	7	0.04	55.00	27.50	0.02
1921	6	0.03	60.00	30.00	0.02
1920	6	0.03	60.00	30.00	0.02
1919	4	0.02	30.00	30.00	0.01
1918	3	0.02	30.00	30.00	0.01
1917	3	0.02	70.00	35.00	0.03
1916	9	0.05	83.00	27.67	0.03
1915	4	0.02	30.00	30.00	0.01
1914	5	0.03	0.00	0.00	0.00
1913	2	0.01	30.00	30.00	0.01
1912	2	0.01	30.00	30.00	0.01
1911	1	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00
1910	3	0.02	18.00	18.00	0.01
1909	2	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00
1908	2	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00
1907	2	0.01	30.00	30.00	0.01
1905	2	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00
1904	4	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.00
1901	2	0.01	25.00	25.00	0.01
1900	2	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00
1899	4	0.02	50.00	50.00	0.02
1893	2	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00
1892	1	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00
1889	1	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00
1888	1	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00
1884	2	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00
1881	1	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00
1880	1	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00
1870	1	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00
1869	1	0.01	20.00	20.00	0.01
1861	1	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00

1849	1	0.01	10.00	10.00	0.00
1838	1	0.01	20.00	20.00	0.01
Total	17685	100.00	259948.00	23.97	100.00

Average Copyright Year: 1993

Washburn Memorial Library Memorials 2019

In memory of **Joyce Fox** Birds and Blooms Magazine given by Rita Kingsbury.

In memory of **Jessie and Jeremy Fox** Tacky and the Emperor by Helen Lester, I Will Never Not Ever Eat a Tomato by Lauren Child and Beware of the Storybook Wolves by Lauren Child given by Rita Kingsbury.

In memory of **Dana McHatten** The Week-by-Week Vegetable Gardener's Handbook: Make the Most of Your Growing Season by Jennifer Kujawski and Preserving Summer's Bounty by Rodale Food Center given by Ellsworth and Dolores Woodman.

In memory of **Fred Clayton** The Power of Habit: Why We Do What We Do in Life and Business by Charles Duhigg given by Ellsworth and Dolores Woodman.

In memory of **Mrs. Frederick (Lila) Martin** Proof of Guilt, A Fine Summer's Day, A Question of Honor and A Pattern of Lies by Charles Todd given by Harold Marr.

In memory of **Bruce Turner** Car and Driver Magazine given by Burrells Luce.

In memory of **Gwen and Gary McBurnie** gift to the memorial fund from Jeremy McBurnie.

In memory of **Eric Thibodeau** The Invisible String by Patrice Karst, I Miss You: A First Look at Death by Pat Thomas and When I'm With Jesus: For any Child with a Loved One in Heaven by Kimberly Rae given by Jackie O'Clair

In memory of **Eugene B. Brown Sr.**, a garden bench, given by Kay Brown, Gene & Londa Brown, Vicki & Deryle Sponberg, Cheryl & Winston Shenkle, Joanne & David Lavway, and Brenda Turner.

In memory of **Nada Theriault** Return to Moose River by Earl Brechlin given by Gene and Londa Brown.

In honor of **Courtney Howe** Hector and Hummingbird by Nicholas John Frith given by Lois Walton.

Online
Public access Cat.
OPAC

Statistics 9/01/2019 - 10/3/2019

Type Of Search	Main	KidZviZ	Mobile
Visual Search	0	2	N/A
Study Program Search	0	0	N/A
Lexile Search	0	0	N/A
F&P Search	0	0	N/A
Serial Search	0	N/A	N/A
Browse Search	0	N/A	N/A
State Standards Search	0	N/A	N/A
Author	62	0	2
Call Number	9	0	N/A
Curriculum Objectives	0	0	N/A
Dewey	0	0	N/A
Donor	0	N/A	N/A
ISBN	3	0	N/A
Keyword	839	0	41
Series Title	2	0	0
Subject	22	0	1
Title	109	0	N/A
Total	1046	2	47

In Library Use & Cell Phone Lookups

Expense Summary Report

Department(s): 70
January

66.7%
OR LESS

Account	Budget Net	- C U R R M O N T H - Debits Credits	YTD Net	Unexpended Balance	Percent Spent
70 - Library	51,581.00	0.00 0.00	34,104.62	17,476.38	66.12
01 - Salary	38,626.00	0.00 0.00	25,483.85	13,142.15	65.98
16 - Librarian	21,500.00	0.00 0.00	14,375.88	7,124.12	66.86
17 - Asst. Lib.	2,000.00	0.00 0.00	1,127.50	872.50	56.38
90 - Health	13,150.00	0.00 0.00	8,687.76	4,462.24	66.07
92 - Medi	350.00	0.00 0.00	220.10	129.90	62.89
93 - SS	1,475.00	0.00 0.00	941.10	533.90	63.80
94 - Unemp.	42.00	0.00 0.00	31.50	10.50	75.00
95 - Work. Comp.	109.00	0.00 0.00	100.01	8.99	91.75
02 - Utilities	4,275.00	0.00 0.00	2,529.61	1,745.39	59.17
01 - Electric	1,000.00	0.00 0.00	768.98	231.02	76.90
02 - Heat	2,500.00	0.00 0.00	1,255.11	1,244.89	50.20
05 - Water/Sewer	775.00	0.00 0.00	505.52	269.48	65.23
03 - Comm.	380.00	0.00 0.00	271.33	108.67	71.40
03 - Telephone	380.00	0.00 0.00	271.33	108.67	71.40
04 - Maintenance	725.00	0.00 0.00	344.10	380.90	47.46
01 - General	500.00	0.00 0.00	221.60	278.40	44.32
07 - Garbage	225.00	0.00 0.00	122.50	102.50	54.44
05 - Supplies	550.00	0.00 0.00	304.32	245.68	55.33
01 - General	100.00	0.00 0.00	51.11	48.89	51.11
02 - Office	200.00	0.00 0.00	28.74	171.26	14.37
05 - Library Sup.	250.00	0.00 0.00	224.47	25.53	89.79
08 - Admin. Costs	6,725.00	0.00 0.00	4,941.66	1,783.34	73.48
02 - Dues/Subs.	500.00	0.00 0.00	250.00	250.00	50.00
04 - Postage	75.00	0.00 0.00	0.00	75.00	0.00
05 - Training	100.00	0.00 0.00	0.00	100.00	0.00
09 - Lib.Allow.	4,350.00	0.00 0.00	3,001.66	1,348.34	69.00
14 - Tech. Sup.	1,700.00	0.00 0.00	1,690.00	10.00	99.41
99 - Misc.	300.00	0.00 0.00	229.75	70.25	76.58
03 - Events/Activ	300.00	0.00 0.00	229.75	70.25	76.58
Final Totals	51,581.00	0.00 0.00	34,104.62	17,476.38	66.12

OK
Paid In full

Extra Month

OK

Library Board of Trustees Concerns

At the Library Board meeting in June, it was suggested that I go to the library and read the past minutes of the meetings when I questioned the placement of the memorial bench on the library lawn. I did do that and also consulted the Town Reports ever since the library was founded.

In 1949 a building committee of five members was appointed by the Washburn Town Council to raise the funds to build a new library. They raised the necessary \$15,000 for construction. In 1950, with the completion of the new building, the Washburn Town Library ended, and the Washburn Memorial Library began. Unlike our other neighboring libraries, which were named and dedicated to individuals, or a specific family, the decision was made by the founding members, that the new library building itself, would serve as a memorial to the friends, family members, and the citizens of the community who have passed away. While our library has received several very large endowments from individuals and families, it has never been considered to name our library.

During the first few years the Library Board of Trustees consisted of five members, with alternating years of service. Later a sixth person was added, with the terms of office, alternating in pairs, every three years. This was done so that there would always be members with knowledge and experience, with service on the board. In this way the older members are able to share this information with new members. Because the citizens of both Perham and Wade were using the library as much as the citizens of Washburn, the Board of Trustees asked the town council to consider inviting these towns to appoint a single individual each, to serve three year terms on the Board of Trustees with equal voting rights.

In 1977, with the death of Board member Mavis Brown, the mother of Keith Brown, I was asked by Anna Canders, Chairperson of the Board of Trustee, to consider serving the remaining years of her term. I am extremely proud to say, that I am completing my 42nd year of service on the Washburn Memorial Library Board of Trustees, however I have asked our Chairperson Rita Kingsbury, to be placed on the agenda so that I may share with everyone present my concerns regarding the proper functioning of the Board of Trustees as well as members of our town government.

The Washburn Memorial Library Board of Trustees has, without question, been a governing board. It has, and has always had, since it's creation, the absolute authority to conduct all, and I stress all, of the business of the Washburn Memorial Library. This authority was granted to the Washburn Library Board of Trustees when the trusteeship was created in the library's original charter. The Washburn Memorial Library's by laws, which affirm our authority and responsibilities, are periodically reconfirmed by the members of the Washburn Town Council, including members who are currently serving on that council.

Our members were recently given highlighted copies of an article from The Maine Library Trustees Handbook titled Types of Boards. The highlighter ignored the only term presented in bold face type. That term is "Written Agreements. " It states:" written agreements with the local governing entity are the best way to assure that a library board continues to exercise the power it believes it has. There should be a memorandum of understanding (MOU) between the municipal governing body and the Board of Trustees that delineates the roles/ responsibilities of each entity. This documentation helps all concerned in carrying out their duties. This agreement should be reviewed at least every five years." The Washburn Memorial Library Board's by laws have always served as our written agreement with the town government. Our by laws state that all library business must be conducted by the Library Board of Trustees in formal monthly meetings. All business must be conducted following the latest volume of Robert's Rules of Order, and parliamentary procedure.

Our by laws clearly state that the library will not accept any gifts, other than memorial books, and donations to the Memorial Fund, without the approval of the members of the Library Board of Trustees. Having checked all of the minutes of past meetings over the last year, the outside bench is mentioned twice, but it was not voted on to approve it. While not written, the Library Board has always placed a small brass name plate on or near the objects accepted as a memorial, stating the donor's name, and the person for whom the object is given.

As the Library Board of Trustees has the authority to conduct all library business, it also has the responsibility to conduct the process of seeking, interviewing, and recommending individuals applying for the position of librarian. During my time on the Board I have worked with five librarians and seven town managers. Myrtle (Skip) Jardine was the first librarian with whom I worked. When she informed the Board of Trustees that she was planning to retire, we were required to place ads in local and state newspapers, seeking applicants and requesting resumes and applications. We received several applications. Barbara Porter applied for the position and received a unanimous vote of the Board of Trustees. Her name was presented in writing to Town Manager, Sheldon Richardson, who presented her name at the next Town Council meeting, where she was approved and appointed librarian. When Barbara Porter informed us that she was planning to retire, we again placed notices in state and local newspapers seeking applicants. We received several requests and were reviewing resumes, and setting up appointments for interviews, when we were informed that Town Manager, Jim Gardner, had taken it upon himself to hire Katherine Corey, with no input from the Library Board of Trustees. Jim Gardner resigned and was replaced by Andrea Powers in 2007. She served until 2009 when Beverly Turner became town manager. The issue of greatest concern to the Library Board was that all of our library files, kept in the library, had disappeared along with our memorial book. They have never been found. Beverly Turner, as Town Manager, also informed me that she had thoroughly searched through the

town's records and could not find any of our library records, which had always been kept there. They were never found. The question still remains, who took them? Who had the authority to enter the town's files and remove and destroy all of our irreplaceable library records? To do so is a criminal act and it still remains unsolved.

In January 2011 Katherine Veitschegger was hired as Washburn's new librarian. Beverly Turner informed me that the town council was requiring her to attend all Library Board meetings. Katherine Veitschegger was from Tennessee, young and attractive, intelligent, well-organized and she performed her duties in the most professional manner. She was very well liked by our patrons, their children, and we board members were extremely pleased with nearly all of her actions. At the direction of the Board she applied for and we received several grants, one of which was the Stephen King grant, whose funds we planned to use to create a community room in the basement of the library.

Without consulting with the Board of Trustees, the librarian went to the town council and asked for their permission to direct all of the plans to use the King grant money we had received to renovate our basement. Without sharing these actions with us, she began telling us exactly what and how things were going to be done. She set the date for when the project would be completed, which she told me later was the date that her husband would be completing his internship with a dental practice in Presque Isle. They would be leaving the following day to return to Tennessee. She began rushing the renovation project. Walls were erected without addressing serious water leaking issues, which, by the way, still exists, and our plumber, Steve Davis, informed me that she would not allow him to make the new bathroom handicapped accessible, which he was required by law to do, because she said there was not time enough to do it. I asked Beverly Turner to place me on the agenda of the next Town Council meeting so that I could address my concerns. At the Town Council meeting the chairman, Keith Brown, was out of town and council member Fred Thomas conducted the meeting. After my presentation, a copy of which you now have, he simply stated that "she came to us and I told her she could do whatever she wanted to do with the money." That was wrong because the King Grant was money to be spent at the discretion of the Board of Trustees.

The future role of the Library Board of Trustees in governing and operating the Washburn Memorial Library is at stake here. Over the past few years the Town Council and some Town Managers, have continually eroded our authority as it was set forth in our by laws. We have been left out of the hiring process for the last three librarians, a duty which had previously been our responsibility. I do not know when or how our by laws have been changed and our responsibilities have been reduced.

The Washburn Memorial Library has existed for sixty-nine years. For nearly all of those years all of our library's business has been conducted by eight dedicated, caring, and responsible citizens who have been duly appointed by the Washburn Town Council, and the towns of Perham and Wade. For all of those years the Washburn Library Board has never sought tax payer support for anything beyond those items which we have always been able to seek in our annual budget, which is approved by the Washburn Town Council and presented to the citizens of Washburn along with the town's annual budget.

Another concern I have is books given as memorials being sold with the memorial donation pages still in them. I have with me one case in point. My son purchased this book at the book sale over the August Festival. It was donated by the Canders Family in memory of Ray Carter. My son talked to Sam Canders and sent him a pictures of the memorial page in it. Sam replied that it made him sad. The Thompson family has donated much money to this library. Laurel and Arlene Thompson donated many books to this library, as has Anna Bragg. She had attended every library function we have had, even though she no longer lives here. This is a slap on her face.

I shall conclude this by saying that these issues have bothered me deeply and have kept me awake many nights over the past few years. I have no desire to cause trouble or create problems for anyone. At a previous meeting I questioned why we had a huge bench dedicated to Eugene Brown Senior on the lawn of our library. My question elicited a strong and emotional response. I have reason to believe I was made out to be a bogey man for asking the question, however I want people to know and understand how I feel about him. I first met Gene Brown Sr. the first week I came to Washburn in 1966 at a meeting at the old high school where my wife was being introduced as a new teacher. Eugene Brown was at the meeting as his son was a student there. He was a close friend of many of my closest male friends in Washburn. For many years he maintained a camp at Portage Lake where he entertained his friends. He was a gentleman who was dedicated to his business and was always described as a kind and generous person. I was pleased when Eugene Brown, Jr. offered to donate a memorial bench. My problem was that it was never approved by the Board of Trustees. The size of it and the lettering overshadow the library sign.

I love this library and I am extremely proud of what it has contributed to the educational and cultural life of this community. I am proud of the responsible and hard working individuals with whom I have worked on the Library Board of Trustees, both in the past and at the present time. I would simply like to see our library functioning the way it was and should be functioning into the future, before it is my time to leave.

Gary M. Cole

**Washburn Memorial Library
Library Board Agenda
October 3, 2019**

✓ Report from Gary Cole

✓ Secretary's Report

✓ Treasurer's Report

✓ Librarian's Report

✓ Old Business:

- ☒ Change library hours include Saturday?
- ☒ Set hours for Ye Olde Book Shoppe in addition to library hours
- ☒ Update our 501c3 status
- ☒ New lighting
- ☒ Status of a new children's section

New Business:

- ☒ Identify a new substitute Librarian
- ☒ Discussion of struggling Book Club
- ☒ Association for Training and Development (A4TD) person for us?
- ☒ Chap 3 "The Trustee Job Description"
- ☒ Date of the next meeting

Current Board Members

Appointed Annually:

Perham Bev Turner
Wade Heidi Silver

Appointed for 3-yr terms by Washburn Town Council:

Expiring 2020	Laurie Blackstone Christina Maynard
Expiring 2021	Rita Kingsbury Charlotte Griffin
Expiring 2022	Gary Cole Londa Brown