

**Griswold Memorial Library Board of Trustees  
Meeting Minutes  
Monday, October 21, 2024 at 6:00 pm  
in-person at GML and online by Zoom**

**I. Opening**

- a. Meeting called to order at 6:03 pm.

Present: (Trustees\*)

Zoom: Betsy Browning\*, Betty Purington Johnson\*

GML: Dagoberto Driggs\*, Mikaela Whitaker\*, Chelsea Jordan-Makely,

Hadley Looman

Regrets: Nancy Turkle\*

- b. Land acknowledgement  
c. Team agreements

< 6:06 pm Cheli Mennella\* joined >

**II. Approval of agenda**

Betty moved we approve the agenda as adjusted. Betsy seconded. Agenda approved.

**III. Approval of meeting minutes**

Betty moved we approve minutes for August and September. Betsy seconded. August and September minutes approved.

**IV. Reports**

- a. Director's report

Highlights: Cynthia McLaughlin made a wreath from natural materials for the front door; the last coat of varnish was applied to the door; the topographic survey was completed; Chelsea recommends adopting a bridging plan to give us more time to develop the Strategic Plan.

Betty moved we accept the Director's Report as written. Betsy seconded. DR accepted.

- b. Treasurer's report

Betty has not received an itemized report from the town accountant. She shared what she has for expenses, but there is no report to accept.

- c. Cornerstone Committee report

Nothing new to report.

- d. Governance Committee report

The committee is working on a Local History Collection Development Policy. Cheli will put a draft in the Trustees folder. Betty moved we accept the Governance Committee report. Betsy seconded. GC report accepted.

**V. Ongoing Business**

**a. Strategic planning**

Betty moved we keep the current Strategic Plan as a bridge to the 2026 Strategic Plan. Betsy seconded. Bridging plan approved.

**b. IMLS Award**

The top recommendation for use of award funds is a sign for the front yard of the GML. To hire a sign-maker to craft one with the library name and a bit of text including year founded and year of national medal is @\$6500. Questions for sign-maker: Will there be a roof over the sign? What is expected life span?

Leftover funds may be used for space changes like shelving and a new rug and/or for staff salaries.

**c. Building & grounds**

Nothing further to note.

**VI. New Business**

**a. Follow up from September meeting**

Discussed topics brought up in public comments during the September meeting. Regarding the Trustees' email, an account has been set up and set to automatic forwarding to the group. Chelsea will put the email address on the website. Regarding whether the public comment period is better at the beginning or at the end of the meeting, no decision was made, and we agreed to continue the discussion at the next meeting. Regarding the Land Acknowledgement, we discussed providing further context about why we do an acknowledgement, as a cultural institution with a mandate for telling the truth. The Governance Committee may want to consider revisions to the current text.

**VII. Public comments**

None.

**VIII. Adjourn**

Betty moved we adjourn. Betsy seconded.

Meeting adjourned at 6:48 pm.

Next scheduled meeting: Monday, November 18, at 6pm

*Respectfully submitted by Cheli Mennella*