

Minutes

East Haddam Library System Board of Trustees

Thursday, April 10, 2025

Municipal Office Building Meeting Room 3

6:30 PM

Mission Statement: The East Haddam Public Library System seeks to enrich lives by helping to build communities of lifelong learners. The system provides access to historical collections, offers materials in print and digital formats, and gives community members opportunities to share in public discussion.

- I. Call to Order by D Barlow @ 6:30pm
 - a. Trustees present: J Bielot, L White, K McRae, S Jezek, D Barlow, C vanValkenburg
- II. Approval of March 13, 2025, meeting minutes as presented.
- III. Guest Speaker – Maureen Sullivan: Could not attend due to meeting regarding Federal Library cuts and impact to EHLS.
- IV. Directors Report - E Morgen could not attend but sent the below brief report:
 - a. The new web page is up and running and looks beautiful.
 - b. The budget public hearing overwhelming supported no further cuts to the total town budget as presented at the hearing.
- V. Reports:
 - a. Finance Committee Report – met 7Apr2025 100% of heating budget line is now used; At the town BOF meeting most discussion surrounded BOE budget; Bonding for next projects will be 2029. Possible to get funding for small loans to bridge the gap before bonding that may be needed when looking into new library system; Discussion of cuts of IMLS and impacts to EHLS.
 - b. Governance Committee Report – did not meet in April.
 - c. Public Relations Committee Report – did not have quorum did not meet in April.
 - d. Friends Liaison Report
 - i. Friends of EHFPL: following programs coming up
 1. June 17 will be collecting books at 1st Church every Tuesday.
 2. Author Showcase Nov 8 @ Grange
 - ii. Friends of Rathbun: following programs coming up
 1. May 3 Silhouette Lady @ Rathbun
 - iii. Co-Sponsored events with both Friends Groups and or EH Historical Society
 1. July 13 Tanglewood Marionette’s performing Cinderella @ NHRHS (co-sponsor with Rathbun Friends)
 2. June (date TBD) Mr. Bubbles
 3. July 29 Shark Program with EH Historical Society
 4. August 11 The Poop Museum @ EH Historical Society
- VI. Unfinished Business
 - A. Internship Program – will be moving forward with budget line to support.
 - B. 2024-25 Budget – see above Finance report.

- C. 2025–26 Budget – No changes at this time
 - D. CLC Strategic Planning Cohort-Develop Strategic Plan Committee – No updates at this time.
 - E. New Website – Is up and running.
 - F. Presentation Boards for New Library Facility – no discussion had can be removed from agenda.
- VII. New Business
- a. Cuts to Institute of Museum and Library Services – The library does not directly receive funding from IMLS; however, it will impact the Middletown Library Service Center which we do not heavily use and may impact funding for the internet connection at the Rathbun. More to follow when M Sullivan meets with us.
- VIII. Audience of Citizens - None
- IX. Adjournment without objection at 7:55pm

The meeting will be streamed live on YouTube at the following link:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCLZq-CmatoKY6FW829c6mBA> You may also access the YouTube Live link from the Town’s website: www.easthaddam.org

email questions or comments to: emorgen@easthaddamlibrarysystem.org