

**BRIDGEWATER PUBLIC LIBRARY
TRUSTEE COMMITTEE BOARD MEETING**

MINUTES

April 21, 2026

Meeting Called By	Constance Franciosi (Chair)
Type of Meeting	Regular
Recording Secretary	Jennifer Anderson
Attendees	Constance Franciosi, Jennifer Anderson, Nancy Donnelly, Matthew Gerritsen, Nancy Sarno, Danielle Oliari Jed Phillips, Director
Call to Order	7:09 p.m.
Meeting Adjournment	9:23 p.m.

Meeting of the Board of Public Library Trustees (the “Trustees”) of the Bridgewater Public Library (“Library”) was held in person at the Bridgewater Library. The date, time and access information were posted pursuant to the relevant open meeting rules.

The meeting was called to order at 7:09 PM.

1. AGENDA APPROVAL:

It was moved (Sarno) and seconded (Oliari) to approve the Agenda. Motion passed unanimously.

2. SECRETARY’S REPORT:

It was moved (Oliari) and seconded (Sarno) that March minutes be approved. Motion passed unanimously.

3. CHAIR’S REPORT:

a. Chair thanked trustees that were able to attend the emergency meeting held last week with the Town Manager. Trustees voiced their concerns with the upcoming budget. Town Manager explained the rationale for the proposed budget.

b. Chair thanked the trustees who were able to attend the Town Council meeting held last week to support the library. The Chair spoke for the trustees during the Hearing of Visitors portion of the meeting.

c. New book recommendations due to the Chair & Director by April 30th.

d. Last meeting with Trustees Donnelly and Carson. Chair thanked them for all their support and help. They will be missed.

4. CORRESPONDENCE:

a. Chair received an email regarding Chicago Public Schools and the Chicago libraries. In Chicago school IDs now allow students to access any of the 81 libraries in Chicago.

5. DIRECTOR’ S REPORT:

- a. Director thanked the Board for coming together so quickly to have an emergency meeting and for showing up to the Town Council meeting.
 - b. Pods are on pause- waiting for replacement parts. Parts are being shipped.
 - c. Exact look for cuts is not finalized due to union working with the town. Even with Friday and Saturday closings the staff will be stretched thin. Staff morale is low.
 - d. Columns to be replaced in June.
 - e. BCCR, Director, and Town Manager met to discuss two flag raisings (Pride and Juneteenth- they split the month) in front of the library.
 - f. Home Depot reached out to the Director to donate services. Completed landscaping projects and spruced up the outside of the library.
 - g. Director to attend ALA at the end of June in Chicago.
 - h. Library staff was very appreciative of the recognition by the Board for Library Worker Appreciation Day.
- 6. COMMITTEE REPORTS:**
- a. Building and Grounds- Home Depot improvements look great
 - b. Strategic Planning- There is still an opening on the Flora T. Little Trust board. Continuing to work on 5 year plan.
 - c. Special Events and Outreach- Nothing to report
- 7. OLD BUSINESS:**
- a. National Library Week- Staff appreciated the acknowledgement of the staff by the Board.
 - b. Town Code Amendment- have not heard anything yet.
 - c. FY 27 Budget – discussed what Board can do to support the library during this difficult financial time.
- 8. NEW BUSINESS:**
- a. Juneteenth planning-BCCR invited the Trustees to participate in Juneteenth. Date is June 13th at BSU. Motion to participate (Gerritsen) and seconded (Oliari). Motion passed unanimously. Discussion of how to display the storybook trail.
 - b. Library Director Evaluation tool – draft created by sub-committee of Chair, Dye, and Gerritsen. Trustees to review and email questions/comments to Trustee Gerritsen by May 8th.
- 9. PUBLIC COMMENT:**
- No public comment
- 10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING: May 19, 2026**
- There being no further business the meeting was, upon motion duly made (Oliari) and seconded (Anderson), adjourned at 9:23 PM.*