

Worthen Library

Monthly Meeting – Board of Trustees

September 9, 2025

Attending:

Board members: Natalie Kendrach, Kristen Bartle, Gabby Ramseyer, Liz Wirsing, Ken Kowalewitz

Absent: None

Library Director: Keagan Calkins

Members of the public: Kim Ravdin, Milo Ramseyer

Call to order @ 6:03

Preliminary Business

- **Review payment orders for approval:** Bills are circulating for approval.
- **Agenda adjustments:**
- **Public Comment:**
- **Review and accept the minutes from the previous monthly meeting:** LW moved to accept the minutes from July 8, 2025. KB seconded the motion. Approved unanimously.

Library Director's Report:

YOTO player & cards purchased, lights in downstairs bathroom hall repaired, outside posts have been bleached sanded and stained, basket raffle collection has begun, speaker series has already booked first speaker for 2026, Arlo's backpacks will be expanded (4-5 more), Library had a visit from VLCT safety auditor.

Old & Ongoing Business

Solar project update - champagne toast, we got PAID Friday (9/5)!! \$57,000 from the DOE arrived via direct deposit!

Development Committee report - next meeting is coming up this Friday 9/12. Ken hopes to talk about Worthen Foundation promotion (new name) & the tax benefits as a result of the Administration's "Big Beautiful Bill."

Website update - Keagan and Kristen are busy partnering with Fronetics and are mid "Stage 2" in the process having recently approved all of the copy on the Worthen website (with the

exception of the content belonging to the Worthen Foundation). The Worthen Foundation has expressed interest in having their own independent site outside of the Worthen Library domain. Kristen drafted a letter to the Foundation Committee encouraging them to consider using a domain alias which points back to their content on the existing site. Either way, the first step is to get the content updated. Ball is now in Fronetics court to start staging the copy to the new test site. We're hopeful this could be wrapped up by the end of this year.

New Business

Preliminary Budget Discussion 2026-2027 - agreed consensus that we don't need to work to "flat fund" the budget again this year but work towards a 5% budget increase to review by next meeting.

Fall/Winter Maintenance - not many projects to do aside from some carpeting looking "ratty." Ken asks that everyone consider any other projects big or small to tackle over the winter.

Tent - do we want to sell the tent? It was not utilized this summer and causes more of a headache potentially than a benefit. Ken to call Vermont Tent to get a quote on how much we could sell it for.

The next meeting will be October 14, 2025. The meeting adjourned at 7:06pm.

- ☒ Ken
- ☒ Natalie
- ☒ Liz
- ☒ Keagan
- ☒ Kristen
- ☐ Gabby