North Hampton Public Library - Board of Trustees
Public Meeting Minutes
North Hampton Public Library
239 Atlantic Ave, North Hampton, NH
Wednesday, November 4, 2026 6:30 PM

Chair:	Susan Leonardi	Secretary:	Jacqueline Brandt
Treasurer:	Kathleen Kilgore	Library Director:	Liz Herold

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1. Meeting called to order by the Chair, Susan Leonardi at 6:45pm Pledge of Allegiance immediately followed.

2. Administrative
   2.1. Approval of prior Meeting Minutes. Motion made by S. Leonardi to accept the meeting minutes as presented, seconded by K. Kilgore. All approved, motion passes.

   2.2. Library Reports

Facilities

- Fire extinguishers and emergency signs inspected
- George and Mike replaced a carpet tile in the program room that was damaged by cleaning solution spilled on it

Operations

- High Demand Adult Books include ***The Calamity Club*** by Kathryn Stockett and ***A Court of Splintered Harmony*** by Sarah J. Maas
- Most circulated adult book in October was ***Threshing Day*** by Rebecca Yarros
- Library programs 51 , Drop-in room use 91 , Room reservations 32
- 2,207 visitors in October 2026
- Museum passes used 15 in October
- Circulation total for October (digital and physical) =3626
- Library will be closed Nov 11 for Veterans Day holiday, closing early Monday, Nov 23, (3pm)Wed Nov 24 (2pm) and closed Thursday, November 26 for Thanksgiving holiday
- The Library will be closed Thursday, Dec 24 and Friday, Dec 25 for Christmas Holiday and close early Thursday, Dec 32(2pm) for New Year's Eve and Closed Friday, Jan 1 for New Year's Day.

Financial

- Operating account ending balance $ 55,861.13
- Non-appropriated account ending balance $ 69,379.31
- Investment account 67 ending balance $
- Investment account 90 ending balance $

Staff

- Will be holding a staff meeting end of November 23 at 3pm
- Melody is leaving us for a full-time children's librarian position at Rye PL, last day is Nov 13

Programs

- Recurring programs include Drop-In Monday Morning Puzzles 10am-12pm, Tech Tuesdays (drop-in tech help at 1pm),Caregiver's Cafe facilitated by Cornerstone VNA - 2nd and 4th Wednesday 10:30am, Book to film Fridays at 12pm
- Current art exhibit Sara Desjardins of Summerfrost Studios, specializes in Realistic pyrography - artist and professional woodworker
- 12,000 Years Ago in the Granite State presented by Prof Robert Goodby on Tuesday, Nov 3 at 6:30pm
- Seacoast Memory Cafe Wednesday, Nov 4 at 2pm
- Broom Making Workshop on Saturday, November 7 at 11:30am
- American Mah Jongg class will be held most Thursdays at 1pm beginning October 22

2.3. Youth report

Youth Services Report - OCTOBER 2026
Submitted by: Katy Wuerker, Youth Librarian

We had a relatively busy October this year, starting with fairy house making and ending with tasty cookie decorating and a Craft-O-Ween for families. Our numbers are about the same in terms of the number of programs offered and people that attended. All in all, a very fun month!

Peggy has been a huge help in assisting in crafting and in general interacting with kids and families as they make their way back to the children's room. Deon has as well been a great presence in the youth areas. She has started to make her bulletin board magic in the Creation station and did a great little "side quest" cat scavenger hunt to accompany the normal scavenger hunt, complete with very cute cat bookmarks for patrons to take.

This was Mel's last full month with us, and once again, she held some great storytimes for our families. As she makes her way to Rye Library, I look forward to picking up a few storytimes as Mel leaves as well as her program for friendship bracelet and bag charm making.

I think next year Emily and I might try a few new things, including tying the Craft-O-Ween and the trivia at times earlier in the day/Saturday. I think we tapped into some fun halloween enthusiasm in the area and now just need to navigate when to offer our programs. I might also try to limit the kid's cookie decorating to 12 kiddos instead of 18, just to make the whole event a bit more manageable for myself.

Overall, 244 patrons participated in 33 youth events in October 2026:

Program Age Group	# of Programs	# of Participants
Children's (Babies through 4th grade)	21	225
Teen (5th through 12th grade)	5	0
All Ages Youth Programs	4	10
Other Youth Events	3	9
October 2026 Youth Totals	**33**	**244**

Adult Programming

Ongoing Programs:

Spooky season has passed and cozy season is here! At NHPL, we are holding steadfast in our current ongoing program offerings. Book clubs and Genealogy Club have maintained steady attendance as well as our Drop-In Monday Morning Puzzles (which hosts anywhere from 5-12 folks from a group home all the way from Billerica!). Our Book-to-Film program has a weekly watcher, which is excellent, however, I found out that it is the same time as Portsmouth Senior Center's matinee. In the future, I will make sure to cross reference our time with local senior centers (not just libraries) in order to reduce overlap. Seacoast Memory Cafe will most likely be moved into this 'ongoing programs' section as opposed to the 'one-off' section as we have maintained amazing attendance and have asked the FNHPL to fund more events through the first few months of the New Year.

I am currently workshopping potential ongoing programs for the New Year to spice up our offerings a bit. As I discussed last month, I am hoping to start a Silent Book Club chapter at NHPL for folks to meet each other and have a dedicated quiet time to read whatever they wish. I am also still working on a proposal for a joint collaboration with other Seacoast Area Libraries. This November, my goal is to look into libraries within New England and see what other ongoing offerings they offer and work to adapt them to our community if it is fitting.

One-Off Adult Programs:

A year of Adult Programming has come and gone since I have been here! The time flies and I have learned a lot about our community and the type of programs they enjoy! American Mah Jongg was easily the most successful 'one-off' style adult program we saw this month, with 10 folks attending the second meeting and more people calling everyday for the next meeting (I've had 4 more RSVPs since last week). Mah Jongg is being considered a 'one-off' program for the time being as the couple who teaches it are only teaching for 6 weeks. After that, we will start our own club and perhaps invite them back in the summer to hopefully get a whole new group of learners. The cemetery sleuthing program was a casual success with 7 attendees. I wish more had come as it was very interesting, however, the folks that attended were very grateful we offered it. Katy and I's Halloween Double Feature saw very few attendees which was disappointing, but we aren't ready to give up the idea of side-by-side adult and youth programs. We are hoping to bring it back during Summer Reading 2027 or a school vacation.

As I discussed in my last report, we hope to create a survey for patrons so that we can get a better idea of what patrons would like to see in terms of programming–for both adults and youth. We had a former patron reach out and offer to give a talk of the work he does in Antarctica! He will be presenting in early January, which will be very exciting and hopefully get a lot of attendees. This November, I hope to work on planning out the first few months of the New Year, turning to previously successful events and other libraries for inspiration on what really clicks with adults and members of our community.

Upcoming Programs:

- 12,000 Years Ago in the Granite State: 11/3 @ 6:30p
- Trade Your "I Voted" Sticker for a free book!: 11/3 @ 9:30a
- Seacoast Memory Cafe: 11/4 @ 2p (Postponed)
- Local Artisan Makers Market: 11/28 @ 10a

Program Type	# of Programs	# of Attendees

Ongoing Programs	**19**	**35**
One-Off / "Special" Programs	**6**	**46**
Total	**25**	**81**

Motion made to accept the Library Director's Report, Youth Librarian's Report, Adult Librarian's Report and Financial reports as presented made by J. Brandt, seconded by S. Leonardi. All approved, motion passes.

2.4. Financial Reports
Presented by L. Herold, no significant changes or occurrences.

3. Old Business

3.1. Upcoming budget meeting dates. Town website has changed. Monday, November 30, 6:30pm.
3.2. MOU Selectboard. Trustees approved. Discussion as to use of space with Recreation Department. Events collaboration, possible.

4. New Business

4.1. Meeting Room Policy- Discussion continues as trustees review material.
4.2. Upcoming policies to review. Investment policy to be reviewed by January 2027.

5. Friends update
Not meeting this month. There is a program next week an the aannual appeal is out.

6. Public Comment
No public comment at this time.

7. Any Other Item that may legally come before the Board
The Board reserves the right to act on any item related to the prudential administration of the library's affairs, which circumstances may require.
K. Kilgore suggested that some additional plantings/landscaping for the front roadway of the library. It was suggested that we approach the Foundation for funding. S. Leonardi the contact a landscape architect for expertise.

8. Next Meeting/Adjournment
Next meeting is 9 December 2026. Meeting adjourned at 7:50pm.