

**KIMBALL LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
March 25, 2026**

ATTENDANCE:

Jill Ottow - Chair

Karen Moss – Vice Chair

Marnie Finn - Treasurer

Linda Jette – Alternate

Nina Gray - Alternate

Christine Latino

Gail Dennig - Alternate

Kane Guthrie – Secretary

Karen Brown – Director

Call to Order: 5:02

Public Attendees: Sam Butler, Karen Trasatti, Pam Walsh, Kate Rocheford, Arlene Quaratiello, Anne Brenton, Greg Spero

Public Speakers: Karen Trasatti, Arlene Quaratiello

Items:

Secretary's Report –

Draft minutes of the 3/16/26 special meeting submitted.

Motion to accept the minutes made by Kane Guthrie, seconded by Karen Moss.

Vote:

Jill Ottow	Y	
Karen Moss	Y	
Marnie Finn	Y	
Kane Guthrie	Y	
Christine Latino	Y	

Motion: **PASSED** / DID NOT PASS (circle one)

Draft minutes of the 3/16/26 Subcommittee on Alternate Pool Selection submitted with correction from Christine Latino to add the following note:

“Arlene Quaratiello was considered and not selected”

Motion to accept Subcommittee Meeting minutes made by Jill Ottow, seconded by Christine Latino.

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Vote:

Jill Ottow	Y	
Karen Moss	Y	
Marnie Finn	Y	
Kane Guthrie	Y	
Christine Latino	Y	

Motion **PASSED** / DID NOT PASS (circle one)

Final draft minutes of 2/25/26 Non-Public Meeting submitted.

Motion to accept minutes of 2/25/26 Non-Public Meeting made by Kane Guthrie, seconded by Karen Moss.

Vote:

Jill Ottow	Y	
Karen Moss	Y	
Marnie Finn	Y	
Kane Guthrie	Y	
Christine Latino	Y	

Motion **PASSED** / DID NOT PASS (circle one)

Final draft minutes of 2/25/26 regular Meeting submitted.

Motion to accept minutes of 2/25/26 Non-Public Meeting made by Jill Ottow, seconded by Karen Moss.

Vote:

Jill Ottow	Y	
Karen Moss	Y	
Marnie Finn	Y	
Kane Guthrie	Y	
Christine Latino	Y	

Motion **PASSED** / DID NOT PASS (circle one)

Treasurer's Report –

Submitted by Marnie Finn. Motion to accept Treasurer's Report, including \$200 in donations made by Kane Guthrie, seconded by Christine Latino.

Jill Ottow	Y	
Karen Moss	Y	

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Vote:

Marnie Finn	Y	
Kane Guthrie	Y	
Christine Latino	Y	

Motion **PASSED** / DID NOT PASS (circle one)

Director's Report:

Statement of thanks and deep gratitude to the community for the outpouring of support in recent weeks.

Statement of clarification and added context to the situation regarding the budget shortfall: Due to various factors including inflation, 2025 operational budget was underfunded. The requested increase in funding for 2026 did not include funds to make up for the previous year's shortfall. Concern is that this shortfall continues to roll from year to year, resulting in lasting damage to Library services and collections. Further concern that private sources of funding to make up for these shortfalls will be inadequate going forward.

Old Business:

HB273 and Library Card Policy update. Policy now includes ability to opt out of Date of Birth data point collection.

Motion to accept new policy update with minor edit from Christine Latino including an asterisk next to the mention of DOB, referring to the ability to opt out, made by Karen Moss and seconded by Christine Latino.

Vote:

Jill Ottow	Y	
Karen Moss	Y	
Marnie Finn	Y	
Kane Guthrie	Y	
Christine Latino	Y	

Motion **PASSED** / DID NOT PASS (circle one)

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Library Closure. Motion made by Karen Moss that the Board vote to reaffirm intent to preserve high quality of services as it works through the options presented and discussed, seconded by Kane Guthrie.

Vote:

Jill Ottow	Y	
Karen Moss	Y	
Marnie Finn	Y	
Kane Guthrie	Y	
Christine Latino	Y	

Motion **PASSED** / ~~DID NOT PASS~~ (circle one)

Discussion ensued over some of the options to make up funding.

Friends of Library could be a source for special collections. Would have to invoice the library /town directly.

Friends of Library could also fund Press Reader service (includes digital copies of Boston Globe, etc.)

Friends would need to vote on these initiatives and Library would request that they be gifts in perpetuity.

Friends of the Kimball Library vote not to occur until mid-April.

Friends funding of Print Magazine and Daily Publication collection? Magazines and publications are core services of the library and as such fall under the premise of adequate funding for which the town is responsible by law.

Closures on some evenings (patchwork schedule) affecting part-time staff unequally. May also create unsafe environment for staff if building is "empty".

Saturdays just for summer does not reflect well on staff, may be a perception that staff want summers off.

Clarification that Saturdays are indeed the least busy day of the week for the library, backed up by data collected over the past years.

Labosque Fund still needs to be fully considered. Questions as to what specific stipulations were set up at the fund's inception governing the expenditure of said funds.

2 members of Board of Selectman did not commit to finding leftover funds at the end of year but did pledge to support the effort.

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Motion to accept funding of the Press Reader and Special Collections in perpetuity from the Friends of the Kimball Library (if they so choose to vote for such) made by Jill Ottow, seconded by Kane Guthrie.

Vote:

Jill Ottow	Y	
Karen Moss	Y	
Marnie Finn	Y	
Kane Guthrie	Y	
Christine Latino	Y	

Motion **PASSED** / DID NOT PASS (circle one)

Motion to state the following on behalf of the entire Board of Trustees:

“While the Board of Trustees works to solve current fiscal shortfall, the library will remain open on Saturdays. The Board is searching for the means to continue the regular hours and services it has always provided.” Made by Marnie Finn, seconded by Kane Guthrie.

Vote:

Jill Ottow	Y	
Karen Moss	Y	
Marnie Finn	Y	
Kane Guthrie	Y	
Christine Latino	Y	

Motion **PASSED** / DID NOT PASS (circle one)

Topic of Board hiring an Attorney.

Trustee funds were used, not Library budget funds.

Common practice for Libraries to have attorneys on retainer. Currently we have no formal retainer contract in place with the Attorney.

Alternate Pool Subcommittee:

Subcommittee chose 3 candidates to recommend to the Board:

Beth Cacciotti

Kate Rocheford

Pam Walsh

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Motion to accept the three candidates made by Jill Ottow, seconded by Karen Moss.

Vote:

Jill Ottow	Y	
Karen Moss	Y	
Marnie Finn	Y	
Kane Guthrie	Y	
Christine Latino		N

Motion **PASSED** / DID NOT PASS (circle one)

Election of Officers:

Slate of candidates put forth:

Karen Moss – Chair

Kane Guthrie – Vice Chair

Jill Ottow – Co-Secretary

Christine Latino – Co-Secretary

Marnie Finn – Treasurer

Vote:

Jill Ottow	Y	
Karen Moss	Y	
Marnie Finn	Y	
Kane Guthrie	Y	
Christine Latino	Y	

Motion **PASSED** / DID NOT PASS (circle one)

Motion to re-appoint Alternate Trustees for the 26-27 session made by Marnie Finn, seconded by Jill Ottow.

Vote:

Jill Ottow	Y	
Karen Moss	Y	
Marnie Finn	Y	
Kane Guthrie	Y	
Christine Latino	Y	

Motion **PASSED** / DID NOT PASS (circle one)

Motion to adjourn made by Karen Moss, seconded by Christine Latino.

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Vote:

Jill Ottow	Y	
Karen Moss	Y	
Marnie Finn	Y	
Kane Guthrie	Y	
Christine Latino	Y	

Motion **PASSED** / DID NOT PASS (circle one)

Meeting adjourned: 7:24

Respectfully submitted,
Kane Guthrie, Secretary