

Bedford Village Free Library
Board Meeting Minutes
October 15th, 2025

Attendance: Scott Harrison, Alison Todd, Artika Loganathan, Ann Cloonan, Caroline DeFilippo, Colleen Gelfand (virtually), Ted Eigel which represents a quorum of the Board

Meeting began: 7:05 PM

Minutes: approved from September meeting

414 Update:

- Presentation to public 9/18/26 at Bedford Hills Community Center
 - engaged with community members and some required off line discussion
 - addressed concern about timing of this discussion to the public
 - detailed library level breakdown budgets available on the website
 - sample ballot available for review as well
 - engagement in local papers has been good and largely positive
 - encouraging community members to speak up including through business association, C&M, local businesses
- 414 group has decided to send out a physical mailing to raise awareness about vote to the residents of Bedford (n=~9000) to go out week of October 20th
- Small handouts available for people doing canvassing

Financial update:

- Finances are stable and consistent with prior years

Annual appeal:

- Minuteman will do a 48 hour turnaround post vote with note writing to be done 11/7-11/14/25.

Director's update

- Ticking tent event on 11/15/25 in the parking lot behind the library
- Baker and Taylor (largest distributor of books) has folded
- Alternative options include Brodart and Amazon (does not do plastic covering right now)
- Programs
 - Musical mother goose started
 - Storytime at Bedford farms
 - Legos and crochet for kids to start November
 - Battle of Book team practicing (10/25 looking for volunteers)
 - Dungeons and Dragons is ongoing
 - Creative aging memoir class ending in two weeks (10/27 at 1pm reception)
 - Watercolor to start in winter for creative aging
 - Mahjong lessons happening with drop in class
 - Coffee and conversation with Katie Sweeney went well with another one in January
 - Fox Reads event coming up affiliated with Bedford Center Schools
 - Julie DeFilippo to start Maintain Don't Gain workshop during holidays
 - Demystify AI and Chat GPT workshop upcoming
- Newsletter going on in one week
- Computer update to occur at end of month

Future discussion

- Additional board members to potentially include Maureen with plan for possible January start-will invite to November meeting with other possible candidates.

-Think about linking to high school clubs or high school library based programs (Fire and Ice), community service volunteer hours

Next Meeting November 19th, 7PM, plan for meetings on 3rd Wednesday of month at 7pm for this year