

**Nahant Public Library
Board of Trustees
March 13, 2026**

Board Members Present: Anne Spirn, Linda Jenkins, Anne Bromer

Others Present: Nori Morganstein, Carolyn Ziering, Ilisa Hurowitz (Fundraising Consultant), Deyscha Smith (Item Reporter)

Convened: 5:08 PM

Acceptance of the Minutes of February 24, 2026. Board President Anne Spirn requested a Motion for acceptance of the Minutes of February 24, 2026. Motion made by Linda Jenkins, seconded by Anne Bromer, and Approved by roll call vote:

Anne Spirn – Aye
Linda Jenkins – Aye
Anne Bromer – Aye

Director’s Report.

Outreach and meetings. Nori met with Ilisa and David on Wednesday 2/25 to work on the grant proposal. On Thursday, Nori and Anne Spirn met with an anonymous donor for the library. On Friday 2/27, Nori met with Ilisa and David to complete a grant proposal from 10:00am – 1pm. They met again to work on the proposal at 2pm. On Monday 3/2, Nori attended the “Community Reads Day” at the Johnson Elementary School, where she read picture books to a preschool classroom. Nori attended a Town Department Head meeting on Tuesday 3/3. Nori traveled with Tess (from the Fundraising Committee) to meet Ilisa and Anne Bromer at the Concord Public Library for a tour of the building and to learn about their new children’s space on Tuesday 3/3.

On Wednesday 3/4, Nori was interviewed on the radio (WBZ) about the library’s eBay page. On Thursday 3/5, Nori did a second radio interview on the same topic. Info about the eBay page will be spread over 6 radio stations for both weekday and weekend listening. Also, on Thursday 3/5, Nori attended a mandatory webinar about the new technology coming from the SLBI grant written with the school. She learned how to report on the stats the state wants about the new technology. Nori went to pick up the new technology (4 desktop computers, 1 tablet, and 1 Chromebook) at the Johnson school on Tuesday 3/10. Also, on Tuesday 3/10, Nori and Carolyn met with Kathy Lussier and others from NOBLE to work on next steps. Also, on Tuesday 3/10 Nori met with HiQ tech support over the phone to talk about the new technology. On Wednesday 3/11, HiQ was at the library to help setup the new devices.

Nori met with Ilisa on Thursday 3/12 to finish last details and edits of the grant proposal. The proposal will be submitted by Monday 3/16, at the latest.

Government Update. The Marblehead budget crisis could result in the closing of the Abbott Public Library or in the library becoming de-certified with half the staff needed to run it.

Federal library news from BookRiot: “Sworn in as Acting Director of IMLS last March, Keith Sonderling’s term of service came to an end 210 days later, per the federal Vacancies Act. His Acting status was intended to give Trump time to appoint a permanent leader. As of writing, no leader has been nominated, and Sonderling—*despite not being the Acting Director anymore*—continues to act as though that is his position. No one in the current regime has interceded, nor have they brought any candidates up for the Director role.

The IMLS Freedom Trucks stole over \$14,000,000 from U.S. taxpayers, intended to serve public libraries and museums, and funneled it directly into the pockets of the right-wing private corporation PragerU. IMLS staff, experts in libraries and museums, had no say in the development of the Freedom Trucks, which the regime claims celebrate America’s shared cultural history in honor of the country’s 250th anniversary. Instead, those Freedom Trucks were developed entirely by PragerU and associates, private interests with a history and philosophy of whitewashing history. Despite claims that the \$14,000,000 Freedom Trucks were going to criss-cross the nation, they’re not. The schedule of events for the America250 celebratory trucks doesn’t include any “blue” states.” –IMLS Censorship article dated 3/2/26

Network info. Nori and Carolyn met with NOBLE on Tuesday 3/10, to discuss the transfer of networks. Nori gave them a tour of the library. Kathy Lussier (director), Elizabeth Thomsen (Member Services), and Martha Driscoll (Systems Manager) helped to answer questions about the process and the starting of scheduling training.

Friends. Nori reached out the Friends ahead of the radio interviews to see if there was anything they thought should be included about the eBay page. Cecile (President) emailed back things she wanted discussed, and Nori mentioned them in the interviews.

The library received funding from the Friends for an upcoming Mushroom talk and for the copies of the *Library Book* purchased to put out in April ahead of May’s Town-Wide Read. Cecile picked up another eBay book purchase to hand deliver.

Programming:

- Weekly Story time
- Weekly Lego Club
- Weekly Italian classes (2 adult-beginner and advanced, and 1 for families)
- Monthly Mystery Book Club
- Bi-weekly Crafting Circle
- Winter Music Series –first Saturday of the month at 1:30pm
 - Feb 7 Gian Carlo (Latin Music) rescheduled to Feb 14 because of a snowstorm
 - March 7 The Emanon Seven (Jazz band)
 - April 4 Scott Ouellette (Classical guitar)

- Youth Art Month Reception with artwork from the Johnson School on Thursday 3/5 at 5:30pm. *The reception had 90 people attend.*
- Mushroom Talk with Jonathan Kranz, a MA Audubon certified Field Naturalist and Vice President of the Boston Mycological Club, Thursday 3/19 at 5pm
- Sewing/Mending workshop Friday 4/3 1-4pm
- Amelia Earhart lecture, co-sponsored with Nahant COA and Nahant Historical Society Friday May 8 at 12:30pm
- 2026 Town-Wide Read. Books will be available to read in April. Programs will take place in May.
 - May 7 Screening of the PBS Film “The Librarians”
 - May 16 Book Swap
 - May 18 Virtual “Banning Books in America: Not a How To” with Author Samuel Cohen
 - May 28 Book Discussion
- Apollo Club of Boston annual benefit concert Sunday June 7 at 3pm
- America’s 250th anniversary program in collaboration with the Swampscott Public Library June 17
- Virtual Celebrating America’s 250th: “Boston, 1776” with author JD Dickey June 22 at 7pm

Building Report.

The Library was closed on Tuesday 2/24 due to a blizzard.

On Wednesday 2/25, Nori noticed one of the windows had blown open again, this one in the front hall and library items were on the ground and wet. No one was in the library since the past Saturday, so Nori assumed the wind from the storm was the cause. She asked Scott to see if he could shut the window better and he did.

On Tuesday 3/3. The painting of the stack block finished. The painter told Nori he would be back after Campbell finished with the plasterwork, to paint again.

On Tuesday 3/3, Nori received a predicted schedule from Steve (of Campbell). Basement and attic work will begin 3/16, followed by plasterwork, and painting. Nori sent an email to the DPW and Scott to help remove the artwork from the rooms that will be worked on before 3/16.

On Friday 3/6, Nori realized the contractors would need to be working on the library for longer than their contract lasted. She emailed Alison and Vicky (Project Manager) to see if anything needed to change. Vicky emailed Steve to extend the contract by another month. The contractors believe they will be done by mid-April.

New Business.

Local Collection Redux. Anne Spirn requested that Nori add the same sentence that is in the Special Collection Policy to the Local Collection Policy, specifically that any deaccessioned items are offered to the Nahant Historical Society.

Anne Spirn requested a Motion to add the sentence “If and when the Trustees, in consultation with the library professional staff, decides to remove material from this collection, consideration will be offered first to the Nahant Historical Society before other avenues of removal.” to the Local Collection Policy. Motion made by Anne Bromer, seconded by Linda Jenkins, and Approved by roll call vote:

Anne Spirn – Aye
Linda Jenkins – Aye
Anne Bromer – Aye

Concord Visit. Nori, Tess, Ilisa, and Anne Bromer visited the Concord Free Public Library on March 3. They were given a tour by the president of the Board of Trustees and, in particular, looked at the children’s space addition and how it connected to the rest of the library. Everyone got ideas that could be applicable to a potential addition in Nahant.

Fundraising Discussion. Nori, Anne Spirn, Anne Bromer, and Linda Jenkins discussed the last Zoom meeting with an anonymous donor. Anne Spirn explained how this meeting influenced how to request capital funds for the building from the Town. Anne S. had met with Jeff Musman and Lynne Spencer about the process and it was discussed how the Board of Trustees would approach the town after Town Meeting for these capital requests.

Adjourned: 5:59 PM