Nahant Public Library
Board of Trustees
June 2, 2026

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

Others Present: Nori Morganstein, Carolyn Ziering

Convened: 5:03 PM

Acceptance of the Minutes of March 13, 2026. Board President Anne Spirn requested a Motion for acceptance of the Minutes of March 13, 2026. Motion made by Linda Jenkins, seconded by Anne Bromer, and Approved unanimously.

Acceptance of the Minutes of April 28, 2026. Board President Anne Spirn requested a Motion for acceptance of the Minutes of April 28, 2026. Motion made by Anne Bromer, seconded by Linda Jenkins, and Approved unanimously.

Director's Report.

Outreach and meetings. Nori attended the Nahant Village Church Community Breakfast on Friday May 1, presented by Alison Nieto, Town Administrator. Nori met with the Director and Assistant Director of the Lucius Beebe Memorial Library in Wakefield. They gave Nori a tour and chatted about NOBLE, after having visited the Nahant Public Library a couple weeks prior. Nori and Carolyn met with NOBLE on Tuesday 5/5 for their regular implementation meetings. Carolyn and Raegan had a cataloging training with Chris, from NOBLE on Thursday 5/7. On Wednesday 5/13, Nori met with NOBLE and OverDrive to talk about the transition. Nori met with the Friends of the Nahant Public Library on Zoom on Wednesday 5/13. Nori also attended an Executive Board Meeting with other NOBLE directors on Wednesday 5/13. Nori attended the annual Town Meeting on Saturday 5/ 16. Nori met with the NOBLE directors in person at the Melrose Public Library Thursday 5/21. Also, on Thursday 5/21, Linda Jenkins and Nori looked at books from a community member that is moving away. Many of the books will go towards the library's eBay page. Nori and Cecile picked up the books on Saturday 5/30. On Monday May 25, Nori met with Anne Bromer to discuss library fundraising and to go over an upcoming library program. On Tuesday 5/26, Nori and Carolyn met for their biweekly implementation meeting on Zoom. On Friday 5/29, Nori met with NOBLE on zoom.

Government Update. State funding for MA libraries is more secure for FY2027 than it was in the previous year. MBLC (MA Board of Library Commissioners) is bringing back databases that were lost in the previous year due to budget cuts. The following databases (which have a focus on language learning and genealogy), are contracted through FY2027, with access available through June 30, 2027:

- Britannica Escolar
- Britannica Fundamentals
- Britannica Library
- Britannica School
- Gale Academic OneFile + OneFile Collections
- Gale in Context: Opposing Viewpoints
- PebbleGo

MBLC anticipates considering bids for the following topics during next year's (FY2028) procurement of databases:

- General Reference (including subject specific reference products)
- Encyclopedias
- Early Literacy
- Career & Test Preparation

The Trump Administration was unable to dismantle the IMLS (Institute of Museum and Library Services) through legal action. However, the administration is now trying to dismantle the institution by cutting almost the entirety of its budget.

Network update. The library had an all-staff training session with NOBLE on Wednesday 4/29. Raegan and Carolyn attended a cataloging training session setup with NOBLE on Thursday May 7. Nori visited the Wakefield library on Monday May 4, following the visit of the Director and Assistant Director to the Nahant Public Library the previous month. Nori met with NOBLE and OverDrive on Wednesday 5/13. Nori also attended a NOBLE Executive Board Meeting on Wednesday 5/13. Nori met with other NOBLE library directors at their annual meeting on 5/21. Nori and Carolyn continue to meet biweekly for NOBLE implementation.

Technology. On Thursday 4/30, Nori spoke with the library's Hoopla representative about an increase in AI eBooks and eAudio. She requested a filtering service that should filter AI generated content. Hoopla still has a ways to go but is working directly with publishing companies to figure out better and stricter ways of cutting AI out. More AI books and AI summary books had been found on Hoopla at other libraries and Nori wanted to put something in place for Nahant. The Boston Public Library no longer uses Hoopla.

After working with the town, Patrick (the IT person who helps the library and town) and NOBLE, it was decided that Nahant will keep its current internet provider, which can be monitored and helped with by Patrick and the town. Joining the NOBLE provider (Comcast) would have provided faster speeds, but the town and IT would not have access. If anything changes, Nori will look into joining again with the NOBLE internet service.

Friends. All 3 of the Summer Reading Programs for Children have been funded by the Friends of the Nahant Public Library. The Friends also assisted with refreshments for the Amelia Earhart program on May 8 and the Book Discussion on May 28. The Friends also

helped Nori pick up a large book donation on Saturday 5/30. There is a Friends of the Nahant Public Library Annual Meeting scheduled for Saturday 6/13. The large outdoor book sale is scheduled for Saturday 9/19. Attached are the latest financial reports from the Friends.

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
- 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 9 Book Swap
    - May 18 Virtual "Banning Books in America: Not a How To" with Author Samuel Cohen
    - May 28 Book Discussion
- Transition to Kindergarten Concert with CFCE (Coordinated Family Community Engagement) May 12 at 3:30pm
- Apollo Club of Boston annual benefit concert Sunday June 7 at 3pm
- Friends of Nahant Public Library Annual meeting Saturday June 13 at 1pm
- 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
- Musical Medley of Miniature Book Stories fundraiser program with Anne Bromer and Katharina Radlberger on Saturday June 27 at 7:30pm.
- Garden Club Porch tour on July 5. The library will be selling garden books and more on the terrace.
- Virtual – Celebrating America's 250th: the black experience of the Revolution with "Herstorian" Gracia Collins Rich, July 20 at 7pm on Zoom
- Summer Music Series Thursday evenings in July:
    - July 9: Don Hammontree, singer/guitar
    - July 16: Lisa Haley, singer
    - July 23: Marc Maccini, keyboard
    - July 30: Tomoko Iwamoto, Gypsy jazz
- Copper bookmark (metalworking) workshop 9/3 at 5pm
- "Antiques Roadshow" Style Appraisal Program, Co-hosting with the Nahant COA Saturday December 5 at 10am.

Building Report.

On Wednesday 4/29, Nori emailed Alison, Vicky, and Richard about clarifying a timeline for the rest of the envelope work. Nori met with Richard on Friday 5/1 to discuss details.

On Tuesday 5/5, Nori spoke with the plasterer. He told her it was his last day. Nori pointed out the few parts of the wall that were not finished and he said if there was money for it and it was approved, he'd finish it. Nori ran over to Town Hall to speak with Alison. She approved the remaining wall spaces. They did not require further staging or prep work. The work was minimal. The area of the ceiling in the Children's Room, above the antique clock, is not being addressed. It would require more time, staging, and prep work than the library had with the plasterer. On Thursday 5/7, the plasterer finished the plaster work. The staging was left behind for the painting.

On Thursday 5/7, a library patron pointed out that a piece of the building fell down, outside. Nori collected what looked like a triangular shaped slate from the roof and mentioned it to Richard.

On Friday 5/8, the Town contacted Nori because the plasterer left all of the building waste with the town trash. They were supposed to take it with them. Nori spoke with Alison and Scott, the town custodian, and they had already fixed the situation with Campbell Construction, who was immediately scheduled to pick up the building waste.

On Friday 5/8, Nori met with Mike, the electrical engineer, and Richard along with National Grid to discuss the electrical work that the library needs. National Grid and Mike explained that the library needs to keep a single-phased electrical system because going to triple-phased would involve electricity from blocks away, and it would cost a lot more money. It would be a much larger project. He explained that the library could go up to 800 amps (as requested) and still work with a LULA elevator, if it's decided that is what the library needs while being single-phased. He showed Nori and Richard where the electricity would come from and explained that one pole would need to come down. Electrical work would affect the library's next-door neighbor on Nahant Rd. Mike explained that the library could go to their regular electrician to request switching the breakers to light switches and it would not affect the larger electrical project.

Mike Greco, the electrical engineer, Nori Morganstein and Richard Smith met with representatives from National Grid onsite today to discuss the new electric service. The following items came up in the discussion:

- There is no three phase power in Nahant anywhere close to the library. To bring three phase service into this area would require a lot of new infrastructure and result in a substantial backcharge from National Grid.
- Three phase service is more energy efficient, but single phase could serve an expanded library with a few caveats.
- An elevator would be feasible if it is a LULA (small) elevator, which typically uses single phase power. A full-size elevator is harder to make workable with single phase power. The elevator shown in the master plan update drawings is a LULA elevator.

- The trustees seem to be skeptical about the value of an elevator. For sizing the electric service, we would like to confirm that they are comfortable with having any future elevator limited to a LULA elevator.
- The new heat pump HVAC systems we might contemplate could work with a single phase service.
- Lighting is far less important in electricity consumption than it used to be, thanks to modern LED and fluorescent light sources.
- Part of the scope is going to be rerouting the electrical service to the adjacent house through underground conduit, since it is fed off the pole in back that supplies the library. All electrical service work related to the neighbor's house would be the financial reasonability of the Library.
- Underground conduits from the existing pole at the street will need to be brought to the Library and the neighbor's house for the electric service and for Verizon or Comcast telecom services.

On Tuesday 5/12, Nori called and left a message with Poulin Electric. The town requested that the library receive a quote for changing the breakers to light switches.

On Wednesday 5/13, Poulin Electric stopped by the library to look at the breakers library staff use to turn on the lights. They explained they would get back to the library and town with a quote shortly.

On Thursday 5/14, Nori sent an email to Richard and Steven about when the painting was starting. The library has had no work done for 1 week.

Painting started on Tuesday 5/19. Nori and the staff kept the public out of the Non Fiction Room and the Nahant Room from Tuesday 5/19 – Thursday 5/21. Nori made arrangements for the Italian Class to meet at Town Hall. A small card table was brought out with a laptop, for computer use during the painting. The painting finished by Thursday 5/21.

On Thursday 5/21, Nori asked Richard to come in and look at the finished work. Nori wanted Richard to look at one corner and see if he thought it was worth talking to Campbell about. The corner looked squished in. It was not visible before behind the staging.

On Friday 5/22, Nori spoke to Scott, town custodian. He brought up that the contractors didn't do a good job in that same corner. He said that the General Contractor should have told the plaster subs what to do for a historical building. Nori only saw the General Contractor 2 times, and it was at meetings. The painting and outdoor work look great. But that one corner is noticeably off.

On Tuesday 5/26, work began on the new boiler with Irvine. Work is expected to be done in the first week of June.

On Wednesday 5/27, Nori received a quote from Poulin for getting new light switches for the library –the idea being staff would turn the lights on and off with switches, as compared to the breakers currently used. The quote is for $2,212.

On Thursday 5/28, Richard came to the library to talk with National Grid and Mike, the electrical engineer. A whole team from National Grid checked out the space in the library basement and discussed what would be needed outside for the electrical upgrade. The electrical engineer is putting together a report and quotes. This should be done by beginning of July. Both Mike and Richard agreed that the quote from Poulin for the light switches was reasonable and said the library should go ahead with it. Nori spoke with Alison, Town Administrator, and she said the town was okay with the library moving forward with that project. Poulin completed work on the lights on Monday June 1st.

New Business.

Fundraising Discussion. The Trustees discussed a plan to form a Fundraising Committee under the Friends of Nahant Public Library's umbrella and would like to work with the Friends on a fundraising event. The Trustees have made progress reaching out to potential donors and a few commitments have been made by individual donors. The Board of Trustees hopes to receive the first commitment of the matching funds from the anonymous donor soon.

As the Trustees proceed with a capital campaign, they are also seeking qualified architects and suggest inviting a few different architects to tour the building before an official RFP goes out.

Linda Jenkins presented many suggestions (below) for slogans which Anne Bromer said could be used in different contexts for consistent messaging under the main heading of "For the Library"

-Join us in building a legacy of learning
-Invest in knowledge, donate today
-Be the change: support our library expansion
-Help us turn the page on our future
-Together, we can transform our library
-Together we can open new chapters
-Your library, your voice
-Libraries a place for everyone

Old Business.

Policy - Service to Non-Certified Communities.

Anne Spirn requested a motion to adopt the policy as written. Motion made by Anne Bromer, seconded by Linda Jenkins, and Approved unanimously.

Adjourned: 5:53 PM