



TOWN OF LEDYARD

Library Commission

Meeting Minutes

Bill Library
718 Colonel Ledyard Highway
Ledyard, Connecticut 06339

Gales Ferry Library
18 Hurlbutt Road
Gales Ferry, Connecticut 06335

Chair
John Bolduc

Regular Meeting

Monday, March 16, 2026	7:00 PM	Gales Ferry Community Center
-------------------------------	----------------	-------------------------------------

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman John Bolduc called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. at the Gales Ferry Community Center.

II. ROLL CALL

In addition, the following were present:

Carmen Garcia-Irizarry - Town Council Liaison

Lyndsey Robinson - Assistant Librarian, filling in for the Library Director

Present

- Chairman John Bolduc
- Treasurer Ralph Hightower
- Vice Chair Rolf Racich
- Recording Secretary Ellin Grenger
- Commissioner Peter Diette
- Commissioner Wendy Hellekson
- Commissioner Gillian Thorne
- Commissioner Cynthia Wright
- Commissioner Elizabeth Rumery

III. RESIDENTS & PROPERTY OWNERS COMMENTS

None.

IV. MEMBER COMMENTS

State Senator Osten is moving forward with a proposed bill, with the Mayor's approval, for library improvements at both branches. There is no known time frame at this time.

V. REPORTS

1. Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's Report was reviewed.

2. Director's Report

Budget: • The Mayor's proposed budget included a cut that was anticipated; when submitting our budget, the number requested was somehow increased, almost doubled. Fortunately, we caught the error in our budget work session. His cut brought it back in line with our actual request. The work session went well, and the budget will be moving to the Town Council.

Maternity Leave Plans: • I have established procedures and responsibilities for our Leadership Team while I am on maternity. The commission has been informed of my plans, as well as the Town, library staff, and Friends of Ledyard Library.

Library News: • In February we took a look at our collections and have made some improvements. We are expanding our high-interest nonfiction titles for children, updating copies of classics for all ages, and expanding graphic novels for adults. We are also expanding our Nintendo Switch collection. In addition, we have reestablished our standing order for large print, utilizing Thorndike, which offers a much better discount than Ingram (25% vs. 8%). Keep an eye out for new titles at both buildings!

- Speaking of exciting collection news, our Yotos will be available for checkout on March 9th! Stacey did an amazing job working with a team of beta testers in February, and then developing both video and print instructions for staff on how to circulate them. This was incredibly helpful for everyone and I commend her for making the information available in multiple formats!

- I have continued my work on policies/practices and will have materials to share with you upon my return from maternity leave. Until then, staff will be proceeding as they have been.

- We are in the process of revitalizing our homebound delivery services. Lyndsey and I, with guidance from Christine in HR, are developing a new application for delivery volunteers, as well as an updated form for community members who want to use the service. Our goal is to create a form that covers the library and volunteer in terms of liability, while also making the participant's form easier to complete. We plan to have this in place before April so that the Friends of Ledyard Library can help us market the service.

- Our Marketing team has expanded to include a Paper Marketing Subgroup (Cathy,

Jackie, and myself) and a Newsletter Subgroup (Erica and myself). Staff have been informed of any procedural changes and we look forward to continued success for both areas. There is one additional subgroup left to develop, which may not happen until my return. Once established, the subgroups will meet periodically to maintain brand consistency across all platforms.

- Weeding projects are still going strong. Our goal is to have the nonfiction collection at Bill finished by the time I am back and then coordinate the change in shelving before the end of the fiscal year.
- Seed Library work is underway with a tentative opening during the week of March 16. Our community has been asking and we are excited to bring back this very popular program!
- We established a Processing Team made up of staff who have consistent hours at Bill Library and can support the processing and covering of new books. The team has been trained on the current practices and standards, as well as how to prioritize this work with their other duties. Erica did a great job hosting the training and creating a processing binder that the team can refer to at any time.
- We have a new passive activity we are offering at Gales Ferry: Pokémon Binders! Kids can visit the library to trade cards with the binder. There are rules to follow to keep it fair, i.e., no one can trade their valueless energy cards for a holographic rare Charizard. Fortunately, Pokémon trades will be facilitated by staff, primarily Stacey and Raven. This is a great compliment to our Pokémon Club that will hopefully bring kids in outside of the program.

3. Investment Working Group

No report.

4. Friends of Ledyard Library

Pi Day sale raised approximately \$900.00 in one hour and sold out all pies.

VI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Library Commission Special Meeting Minutes Feb. 9, 2026

Motion to approve the Library Commission Special Meeting Minutes of February 9, 2026.

RESULT: APPROVED AND SO DECLARED

MOVER: Ellin Grenger

SECONDER: Rolf Racich

AYE 7 Bolduc Racich Grenger Diette Hellekson Thorne Wright

ABSTAIN 2 Hightower Rumery

VII. OLD BUSINESS

1. Bill Library Association's 990 Tax Return

Motion to approve \$2,400 invoice for 990, the Bill Library Association's Tax Return.

RESULT: APPROVED AND SO DECLARED

MOVER: Ralph Hightower

SECONDER: Cynthia Wright

AYE 9 Bolduc Hightower Racich Grenger Diette Hellekson Thorne Wright
Rumery

Any Old Business proper to come before the Committee

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

Any New Business proper to come before the Committee

None.

IX. NEXT MEETING

Next Meeting Date: April 20, 2026 at Bill Library.

X. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Diette moved the meeting be adjourned, seconded
by Ms. Rumery.

The meeting adjourned at 7:31 p.m.

VOTE: 9-0 Approved and so declared

Respectively Submitted,

Chairman John Bolduc
Library Commission

DISCLAIMER: Although we try to be timely and accurate these are not official records of the Town.