

Benson Library Board Meeting Minutes 4/7/2026

Library Board:

Robin Wilson Chair, Gina Parker Treasurer, Bonny Baldwin Secretary, Jaci Lussier Librarian/Board Member

Meeting called to order by Robin Wilson at 5:31PM

Minutes for March 9, 2026 meeting read aloud by Bonny.

Approval of the minutes motioned by Robin and seconded by Gina with 2 corrections made and reflected in the minutes.

Public Comment: None

Librarian's Report: Jaci has not heard back from Scott Perron yet for work on the radiator covers.

The Blind Date with a Book (Fundraiser organized by Sue Fletcher) has already sold 7 books.

A thank you card was signed by the Board members for Sue.

Sue has also provided prize packages which may be used for summer reading program awards as we will no longer be having Book Bingo. Sue has provided these items "out of her own pocket".

We may consider drawing tickets to win prizes for the summer reading program.

For future book purchases Heidi Chandler and Gina were speaking about getting rid of the gift card concept of purchasing books for the library. Rather, they are proposing using Amazon with an invoice which would be tax exempt. It is felt that purchasing books, both new and used, through Amazon has been less expensive.

Annaleigh brought up Better World, a certified B Corporation (Invested in Childhood Literacy) as a potential source for book purchases.

Books may be purchased by an individual who would then have to submit receipt for reimbursement.

Treasurer's Report

\$2638.85 Left in the budget for the next 3 months.

Chea has completed her work and the payroll for the librarian over the next 3 months will leave us with a little over \$800.00 balance.

WE will need to pay Medicare and Social Security for the Librarian effective July 1st which will cost about \$800.00.

\$90.00 was owed from last year due to a donation having been deposited into the Savings instead of the Checking account.

A motion was subsequently made by Gina to transfer funds from Savings to Checking in the order of \$500.00. Seconded by Robin. All were in favor. None opposed.

A \$50.00 donation was made to the seed Library.

Gina will speak to the Town Treasure to inquire about a separate line or account for the Seed Library.

Reimbursement receipts were turned in for Robin, Leah and Laurie for seed library expenses. This comes out of the \$1200.00 amount which had been approved by motion previously.

The MERP grant was discussed along with our approved motion to provide the Town of Benson \$13,000 toward Capital Improvements of the Library building. Selected Board Member, Daryl Burlett, (at a prior Select Board Meeting) stated that these funds were "Not Needed".

We discussed NOT retracting our motion until we can investigate the topic further.

Old Business

Hiring New Librarian

Ad posted in Front Porch Forum, Benson Blabber, attempts x4 made to publish in Lakeside News with no response.

We had 4 candidates expressing interest thus far.

One dropped out.

Makayla Tomczak who would like to be able to bring her infant with her if hired.

Sandra Robinson and Karina Jutzi.

Discussed Job Shadowing prior to employment.

Interviewing

Jaci would not like to participate in the interviewing process.

We will plan evening interviews 1st week in May. Robin, Annaleigh, Gina and Bonny can be available for interviews.

We will repost ad in the meantime.

Event with **Anthony Ryan** Sunday June 21, 2026 11:30 Am

Jaci will order 2 sets of books (Grade One and Two).

Discussed hats and or badges/Notebooks for kids.

Will place "Save the Date" ad in the Benson Bulletin and Library Page.

Seed Project

Team would like to have event May 16, 2026 11:00 am to 1:00 pm.

They can purchase paper products for their event using money for *Seed project funds*.

Robin will talk to Marcia about the use of Tables and chairs.

Hoping for an outdoor event but will take place rain or shine.

Review Event planning process

Gina provided updated framework for Events including Neighbor to Neighbor

Saving time and repeat planning.

Reading Program for June

Weekly drawings for prizes.

Consider time reading versus number of books read.

Next meeting board will present further ideas.

July N2N: Phil said "NO" to presentation on Green Mountain Boys.

Tech Grant

Orwell Library has secured \$1000.00 to support Tech programs in which instructor would be paid \$50.00 per session (Monthly)

Jaci will talk with Kate to elaborate on parameters for grant.

New Business

Purchasing Adirondak chairs for the front of the library.

Gina will Check with the select board to place on the agenda and see if that would be a possibility.

Next Meeting May 11, 2026 5:30 PM

Motion to Adjourn by Robin 7:20 PM. Seconded by Bonny

Respectfully submitted

Bonita Baldwin

Secretary