

DIGHTON PUBLIC LIBRARY
JOINT MEETING OF THE
LIBRARY BUILDING COMMITTEE AND
LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES
September 4, 2025
3:00 PM

This meeting was a hybrid meeting in person and available via the Zoom Conferencing platform.

Call to Order of the Library Building Committee: Co-Chairman Ken Pacheco called the Library Building Committee meeting to order at 3:01 PM

This was a hybrid meeting with adequate and accessible access through Zoom.

- Roll Call: Ken Pacheco (Co-Chair), Ron O'Connor (Co-Chair), Jim Aguiar, Pat Gailes, Jonathan Gale, Britt Grealish-Rust, and Ralph Vitacco.
- Marc Tavares joined the meeting via Zoom.
- With a virtual meeting, a roll call vote should be taken, so that it is absolutely clear what the outcome of the vote is. The meeting must be completely audible.

Call to Order of the Library Board of Trustees: Chairman Ron O'Connor called the Library Board of Trustees meeting to order at 3:02 PM

This was a hybrid meeting with adequate and accessible access through Zoom.

- Roll Call: Ron O'Connor (Chair), Rita Araujo, and Ann Meitzen.
- With a virtual meeting, a roll call vote should be taken, so that it is absolutely clear what the outcome of the vote is. The meeting must be completely audible.

Pledge of Allegiance: Building Committee members and Library Trustee members recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Updates regarding project workstreams

- Building Commissioner Jim Aguiar reported to the Committee that the project is on track and thanked all who were involved in order to make it happen. Jim Aguiar stated that the cloud lights for the Children's Room are on back order until October, and the two closet doors for the Program Room will not be ready for the opening.
- Jim Aguiar stated that the exterior doors and electrification will happen next week, as will the septic system replacement. Jim Aguiar reported that the Highway Department will be completing all the necessary landscaping after the septic tank is installed. Jim Aguiar also stated that he canceled the order for the grilles due to the fact that the company did not provide a delivery date. In the interim, temporary grilles will be in place until the Committee decides on which grilles to order as permanent fixtures.

- Co-Chair Ron O'Connor asked about the water bottle filling station, to which Jim Aguiar stated that there is no accessible location for the water bottle filling station and that will need to be discussed at a later date.
- Ron O'Connor also asked about moving the Library sign from the modular unit to 207 Main Street, to which Town Administrator Ralph Vitacco stated that the Highway Department will move the sign.
- ADA Coordinator Jonathan Gale asked if the light switch on the bathroom in the main hall was too high for a wheelchair and needed to be lowered. Jonathan Gale also stated that the door handle on the children's bathroom needs to have a levered handle. Jim Aguiar responded by saying that those issues will be addressed between now and the Grand Opening.
- Jonathan Gale also raised concerns about the exterior ramp and asked if sanding had been done, to which Jim Aguiar replied that it had. Jonathan Gale stated that there were still a couple of spots that required proper planing to ensure that the ramp is level throughout, to which Jim Aguiar stated that he will have it resanded.
- Jonathan Gale raised a concern over the end of the ramps and sidewalk cracks, to which Jim Aguiar stated that remedying that is part of the landscaping plan.
- Jim Aguiar reported to the Committee that the project should have about \$5,000 left in the Special Article and about \$10,000 left in the CPC funds by the Grand Opening date. Jim Aguiar stated that the Town Accountant plans to keep both articles open in case anything comes up with the building.
- Jim Aguiar stated that HVAC training will happen next week in order for the final NorthStar payment to be fulfilled.
- Jim Aguiar also stated that the building will receive a full top to bottom cleaning by the middle of next week.
- Jonathan Gale reported on the ADA Grant and stated that the cost for the technology side of the grant will be just under \$4,000 to go on the Town credit card. Jonathan Gale anticipated that after the technology and the door expenses, that there should be about \$2,000 or so remaining in the grant.

Grand Opening plans

- Co-Chair Ron O'Connor reported that invitations have gone out to select invitees and that he has started to receive RSVPs.
- Ron O'Connor highlighted the speakers slated to speak at the Ribbon Cutting and asked the Selectmen's Office if Chairman Peter Caron would be able to participate as a part of the ceremony.
- Ron O'Connor reported that he met with the Cable Committee to go over the program, and they are planning to film the ceremonies.
- Ron O'Connor also asked Town Administrator Ralph Vitacco about posting something to the Town Portal to advertise the Grand Opening.

- Jim Aguiar asked about the total attendance, and if there are more than 150 people in attendance at a place of assembly, then a Crowd Manager is required for the event.
- Ann Meitzen moved to pay for a Crowd Manager and Police Detail for the Grand Opening. Rita Araujo seconded.

Ron O'Connor: Aye

Rita Araujo: Aye

Ann Meitzen: Aye

The motion carried, and the Library Trustees voted to pay for a Crowd Manager and Police Detail for the Grand Opening.

- Historic Commission Chair Pat Gailes brought up the framed Helen Lane map as a possibility for the space above the fireplace, to which the Library Trustees thought it would be a great idea to go with the other historical objects in the Reading Room.

Review, discuss, act on invoices

- Ron O'Connor asked for approval to pay with the Special Article one invoice from Eagle Leasing Company totaling \$189.00; one invoice from Plan B Construction totaling \$25,811.00; nine invoices from The Home Depot totaling \$845.03; and two invoices from Mid-City Steel totaling \$478.10.
- Britt Grealish-Rust moved to approve the presented invoices with the Special Article. Pat Gailes seconded.

Ken Pacheco: Aye

Ron O'Connor: Aye

Pat Gailes: Aye

Jonathan Gale: Aye

Britt Grealish-Rust: Aye

Marc Tavares: Aye

Ralph Vitacco: Aye

- The motion carried, and the Building Committee voted to approve the presented invoices with the Special Article.

Approve minutes of the August 7, 2025 meeting

- Jonathan Gale moved to approve the minutes of the August 7, 2025 meeting. Marc Tavares seconded.

Ken Pacheco: Aye

Ron O'Connor: Aye

Pat Gailes: Aye

Jonathan Gale: Aye

Britt Grelish-Rust: Aye

Marc Tavares: Aye

Ralph Vitacco: Aye

The motion carried, and the Building Committee voted to approve the minutes of the August 7, 2025 meeting.

- Rita Araujo moved to approve the minutes of the August 7, 2025 meeting. Ann Meitzen seconded.

Ron O'Connor: Aye

Rita Araujo: Aye

Ann Meitzen: Aye

The motion carried, and the Library Trustees voted to approve the minutes of the August 7, 2025 meeting.

Update from Building Commissioner James Aguiar

- Jim Aguiar reported to the Committee that his last day in Dighton will be on September 11th. The Committee and Trustees thanked Jim for his work and dedication.

Next Meeting Date

The next meeting of the Dighton Public Library Building Committee is scheduled for Thursday October 16th at 5:00 PM and will be a joint meeting with Library Trustees.

Adjournment

- Britt Grealish-Rust moved to adjourn the Library Building Committee meeting. Jonathan Gale seconded.

Ken Pacheco: Aye

Ron O'Connor: Aye

Pat Gailes: Aye

Jonathan Gale: Aye

Britt Grealish-Rust: Aye

Marc Tavares: Aye

Ralph Vitacco: Aye

The motion carried, and the Building Committee meeting adjourned at 4:08 PM

- Rita Araujo moved to adjourn the Library Trustee meeting. Ann Meitzen seconded.

Ron O'Connor: Aye

Rita Araujo: Aye

Ann Meitzen: Aye

The motion carried, and the Library Trustees meeting adjourned at 4:08 PM