Daniel Pierce Library
Board of Trustees Meeting
July 22, 2026

A meeting of the Trustees of the Daniel Pierce Library was called to order at 7:05 pm with President Mari Martin presiding. Other Trustees present were Patricia Doogan, Scott Allison, Cathy Coombe, Kate Kelly, Bill Richardson, Leanore Egan and Laura Denman. Also present was Cathy Russo, Library Manager.

Secretary's Report: The minutes of the June meeting were reviewed and approved as presented Motion carried

Public Comments: None

Correspondence: L Egan read a letter of resignation from Rhea DeMaria, who retired July 1. She thanked the board for all her great experiences during her decades of service at the library.

Financial Reports: The Board reviewed the financial statements for the month of June. The balance sheets and building fund reports were similar to the previous month. There were $900 of donations to the Building Fund. Operating and income expenses were also similar to previous months. It was moved by C Coombe and seconded by S Allison to approve the reports for June. Motion carried.

Director's Report: C Russo presented the Director's report for June into July. She highlighted activities and programs sponsored by the library. The Community Room will be undergoing a renovation in the coming months, to paid partially by DPL Building Foundation. Repair work to the parking lot from winter storm damage will continue. Children's Summer Reading program is in full swing. The full Director's report is attached.

Old Business: M Martin reported that the DPL Employee Handbook has been completely updated and reformatted. It was reviewed by the Executive Committee and will now be sent to an HR consultant to review and provide recommendations for any changes. It is expected to be presented to the Board of Trustees for approval at the August meeting.

The new DPL sign is nearly complete but has been delayed because of an injury sustained by the creator.

New Business:

1. It has been proposed to move monthly BOT meetings to the third Thursday of each month, so they begin during DPL opening hours. This change will begin January 2027.

2. B Richardson presented a draft of the GPP DOT parade permit and L Egan moved that it be approved prior to submission. Seconded by P Doogan. Motion carried.

3. It was moved by L Denman and seconded by S Allison to enter Executive session at 7:44 pm. The board exited Executive Session at 8:10pm.

4. C Russo presented proposed changes to staff titles and compensation, effective next pay period. It was moved by C Coombe and seconded by K Kelly to approve the title and compensation changes of the two staff members discussed in Executive session, with the changes to be effective at the next pay period. Motion carried. Bill Richardson and Leanore Egan abstained.

Committee Updates:

1. Giant Pumpkin Party – committee met prior to the board meeting and discussed the parade process and each component of the event.

2. Building Committee – committee needs to meet and do a property walk-through in prior to the August board meeting.

3. Garden Committee: M Martin reported that the bushes on each side of the entrance and exit have been removed for visibility purposes. The summer intern and Mari are working on a plan to remove the junipers on the stone wall out front, and a schedule for trimming all shrubs.

   She met with museum board members and staff to establish a part-time position for maintaining the gardens and plantings. The position cost will be shared by DPL and the museum.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made and seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 8:12pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Catherine Coombe,
Recording Secretary