

DRML Building Committee Monthly Meeting
MINUTES
August 13, 2025

Attending

Linda Almy, Underhill; Irene Bihun, Jericho; Pegs Gibson, Underhill; Eric Gildemeister, Underhill; Holly Hall, Library Director; Abbey Heimlich, Youth Librarian; Wayne Howe, Jericho; Nancy Karlson, Jericho (remote); Sven Lindholm, Jericho; Sharon Lockwood, Jericho; Andrea Parikh, Underhill; Steve Martano, Jericho; Christine Ryan, Underhill

Call to Order

- The meeting was called to order by Sven at 7:06 PM

Comments from the Public

- Christine Ryan introduced herself as a representative of the Friends of the Library. Christine gave a brief history of the Friends and their past activities; she said that the Friends are very supportive of the expansion of the DRML building and hopes to support the effort in many ways, including fundraising activities and the public awareness campaign. The expansion is an opportunity to build a legacy with long lasting value, function, and meaning for our communities.
- Steve Martano introduced himself as a super-user of DRML and stated that he wants to be involved with more library activities.

Agenda Adjustments

- None

Architect Kickoff Meeting Review

- The Wiemann Lamphere Architects (WLA) Kickoff meeting of 8/6/2025 was discussed
 - There were questions about a Structural Engineer; Abbey will clarify with WLA
 - The difference between a Construction Manager and the Clerk of the Works was discussed; Abbey will clarify with WLA.
- Holly and Abbey will act as the point people relaying info to and from WLA and the Library Board/Building Committee; the point people may change later in the Project. The Board recognizes the added burden of work placed upon Holly and Abbey and appreciates their efforts!
- The Board needs to determine the timing of the Bond Vote so that WLA can start developing the Project Timeline
 - Board Consensus was that a bond vote in March 2026 (Town Meeting Day) would not give us enough time for fundraising and building public awareness. (Prior discussion had ruled out a "special election" specifically for the bond vote.)
 - August 11, 2026 (VT Primary Election Day) would be a good time for our bond vote re the February 2027 Bond Bank meeting and would give us one year for fundraising and a public awareness campaign

- November 3, 2026 (General Mid-Term Election Day) is also a possibility and would give more time for our pre-bond vote activities while still meeting the Bond Bank February 2027 deadline. Is there a benefit to waiting until November 2026?
- The building sub-committee (small group, only 4 trustees allowed without “warning the meeting” to comply with the VT Open Meeting law but no limit on other attendees) will continue to meet to discuss:
 - August vs. November 2026 bond vote pros and cons
 - Frequency of sub-committee meetings and best day / time to meet
 - Banner for Farmer’s Market and public awareness campaign
 - Finalize and prioritize our “Gap Analysis” list of needs and wants
 - Determine opportunities to involve students and scouts in supporting our efforts.
 A good contact at MMU re students seeking community service hours is Kristen Barker.

Input re Expansion Webpage

- Abbey has a webpage under construction and has sent a link for our review
- Sven suggested the Building Committee Meeting Minutes be moved to the Expansion webpage from the Trustees’ page, leaving a pointer to them on the Trustees’ page. Regular monthly Board Meeting Minutes will stay on the Trustees’ page.
- A Donation Button is in the works
- Ask WLA to review the webpage and ask for suggestions based upon their experience
- A QR code that points to the Expansion Webpage will be created and added to our campaign materials: the tri-fold brochure, the giant tri-fold display, the banner, etc.
- When the Expansion Webpage goes live, we should push it to town and personal Facebook pages, Front Porch Forum, other socials and library and school newsletters (need to ask people how they prefer to receive and consume information.)

Fundraising

- A new Building Fundraising Committee needs to be formed, seeking volunteers and a leader.
 - Connie Gallagher has expressed interest in participating.
 - This new group would be in addition to the regular Fundraising Committee that raises money for our annual operating budget via the Book Barn, the Basket Raffle, Mystery Play Night, and Wine & Dessert Night.
- Sharon will research and follow-up with Christine Graham as a possible fundraiser to hire
- Ideas for expansion fundraising and awareness are being solicited – suggestions so far include matching funds, selling tee-shirts, having a special brew at the local brewery, host a hang-out night at the library, sell personalized bricks/pavers/paintable tiles to be displayed in or around the building.
- Wayne and Eric will create a book-themed “thermometer” to display fundraising progress
- There was a general discussion around reaching external stakeholders and partnering with businesses, town committees (energy, recreation, etc.), churches, the J-U food hub, private book groups, Synergy, a table outside of Jericho Market...

Farmers Market

- DRML's regular appearance at the Jericho Farmer's Market is scheduled to end August 21, 2025. Abbey will speak to the market director about continuing the table there to support our public outreach campaign.
- Sharon is working on a giant tri-fold and banner for use

Harvest Market

- We are soliciting ideas for a Harvest Market Float or other ideas for the parade
- Need more outreach at Harvest Market

Adjournment

- Next meeting of this group: Sept. 10, 2025, 7PM in the DRML Program Room
- Pegs made a motion to adjourn, Sharon seconded, passed unanimously
- Sven adjourned the meeting at 8:26 PM