

Goodnow Library
Board of Trustees
AGENDA
Tuesday, February 7, 2023, 6:30 p.m.
Community Room
21 Concord Road, Sudbury

Call to order/Notice of meeting recording

Attendance

Minutes of the January 3, 2023 meeting

Trustees' Report:

- Discussion on amending future agendas to include public comment
- Correspondence (if any received)

Director's Report:

- Annual Report (vote)
- Revolving Funds (vote)
- FY24 budget - update
- Program policy (possible vote)
- Use of Bulletin Boards policy (possible vote)
- Gala early closing (vote)

Foundation Report:

Old Business:

New business:

Any other items not known 48 hours in advance of the meeting:

Adjournment:

Next meeting: Tuesday, March 7, 6:30PM

Goodnow Library Board of Trustees

Minutes

Tuesday, January 3, 2023, 6:30pm

Recording of the proceeding can be found at sudburytv.org.

Call to order: Lily called the meeting to order at 6:33pm

Notice of the meeting recording: Lily gave notice of the meeting being recorded.

Attendance: All trustees in attendance.

Minutes:

Katina motioned and Ingrid seconded to approve the meeting minutes for the Dec 6 meeting with one correction. The motion passed unanimously.

Trustees' Report:

Friends of the Goodnow Library proposal feedback

The Trustees shared their thoughts on the presentation that the Friends made at the December meeting. Several trustees were disappointed that most of the presentation centered around grievances and that there was a lack of specificity in the proposal for moving forward. Natalie did not feel there were many grievances and supported their proposal for a series of meetings.

The chair allowed public comment. Janie Dretler (Goodmans Hill Road) and Len Simon (Meadowbrook Circle) made suggestions around the idea of the Friends and Trustees each setting up a subcommittee. Their idea was that these subcommittees could have discussions. The trustees discussed that subcommittees have been tried in the past and it was not successful.

Jean motioned and Ingrid seconded a motion that the Trustees would reach out to the Friends and ask for more specific examples of how the Friends would be interested in supporting the library moving forward.

Correspondence - Bill Schineller (Jarman Rd) reached out to suggest adding a thermal energy detector to the Library of Things. The staff appreciates this suggestion and will investigate the possibility.

Director's Report:

FY24 Budget

Esmé met with the Interim Town Manager with regards to the budget. They haven't made any decisions yet.

The Annual Report will be discussed / voted at the February Trustees meeting.

The staff is working on a policy with regards to programming. This would be similar to the policies that exist for collection development. Esmé will bring the policy proposal to an upcoming meeting.

Foundation Report:

The Foundation is completing their annual appeal. They are also in the process of hiring a new development director.

Old Business:

Public Comment at our meetings. Natalie volunteered to research the guidelines and time limits that other committees utilize for their public comment agenda items.

New Business:

None.

Adjournment:

At 7:44 pm adjournment.

Documents used during the meeting:

1. Trustees' Agenda 2023-1-3
2. Goodnow Library Trustees Meeting Minutes - Dec 6, 2022
3. Director's Report - 2023-1-3

Next Meeting: Tuesday, Feb 7, 2023 6:30pm

From: [Goodnow Library Trustees](#)
To: friendsofgoodnow@gmail.com
Cc: [Goodnow Library Trustees](#)
Subject: Request for more information
Date: Wednesday, January 25, 2023 1:47:04 PM

Dear members of the Friends Board,

I'm reaching out to thank you for presenting at our December meeting. When we met in January, the board discussed your presentation. We concluded that we would like to hear some more specific and concrete examples of ways that you would like to support the library. For example, would you like to fund programming? If so, what type? Run your own programming? If so, what are some examples?

We would appreciate if you would compile a list of the activities that you would like to fund or support and please send that to us in writing.

Thank you,
Lily, on behalf of the board

Goodnow Library Board of Trustees

Lily Gordon, chair

Natalie Schlegel, vice-chair

Katina Fontes

Jean Nam

Ingrid Mayyasi

Barbara Pryor

Goodnow Library
21 Concord Road
Sudbury, MA 01776
<https://goodnowlibrary.org/about/trustees/>



The Secretary of State's office has determined that most e-mails to and from municipal offices and officials are public records. Consequently, confidentiality should not be expected.

From: [Susan Pettit](#)
To: [Goodnow Library Trustees](#)
Subject: Re: Request for more information
Date: Thursday, February 2, 2023 9:57:52 PM

Dear Members of the Trustees of the Goodnow Library

Thank you for reaching out.

We could consider any of the programs or activities that we have supported in the past. We do, however, still believe that a dialogue with the Trustees or a subgroup of the Trustees that would enable both groups to speak frankly is necessary to setting out a future path for the Friends and the restoration of a supportive environment. To view our past programs and activities, go to <https://www.friendsofgoodnow.org/friends-programs.html>

We will not be having a February board meeting as several members of our board are traveling during the month of February.

If there are specific programs or initiatives that the Trustees think would be a good fit for support from the Friends, let us know and we can discuss any proposals at our March 14th board meeting.

Thank you,

Alice on behalf of the board

Friends of the Goodnow Library

Alice Levine-
Susan Pettit
Claudia Brandon
Laura Dowling
Lisa Cornacchia
Barbara Cook
Maria Dawson
Pat Scott

On Wed, Jan 25, 2023 at 1:47 PM Goodnow Library Trustees
<LibraryTrustees@sudbury.ma.us> wrote:

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Director's Report

February 7, 2023

It's been a very busy month! Not only have we been short-staffed, but many projects are in the works. In general, I have been working on:

- Recruitment (many moving parts),
- the annual report,
- reorganizing office space,
- learning a new payroll system being implemented by the town.
- Arranging for repair to the window shades,
- Meeting with a sales rep to look at tables and chairs for the meeting room and story/craft room,
- Working on the LSTA grant,
- Notary certification,
- Participating in the GLF strategic planning session

Financial Report

- **Revolving Funds:** this year I am requesting a spending increase in both the Meeting Room and Library Services Revolving Funds.
 - Meeting Room: since I started in 2011, I have requested the same amount as my predecessor, \$10,500. This fund is for the maintenance and upkeep of the library's meeting rooms and other related maintenance. It has been used for annual general cleaning and replacing the audiovisual system. Many years we have not expended the amount requested. However, this year, we will need to upgrade the A/V system again, the kitchen and the tables and chairs in the Community Room. I may have to spread out the projects over two years. We haven't spent any of the money from this year, and I plan on doing a carry forward. Additionally, Facilities will cover the cabinets and plumbing and labor for the kitchen, and the library will cover the appliances. Request: \$20,000
 - Library Services: this is a new account and for the past two years we have requested only small amounts as we build up the balance. The passports are a great revenue generator and we have brought in over \$20,000 in the six months of this fiscal year. I would like to pay for library programs from this account. Request: \$25,000
- **FY24 Budget:**
 - The town is going to propose raising the teen position from Grade 6 to Grade 7, and the increase of \$2,500 to come out of the Other

line. The Reference/Local History position will not be changed this fiscal year.

- **Operations:**

- We are a little over halfway through the year (58%) and operation lines are on target.

Facilities:

- Period products are installed in all bathrooms!
- We moved a number of offices to improve work flow. Karen is now in the office next to mine, Joanne, the head of reference is in the office behind the reference desk, and the new office supervisor is in the room adjacent to the small conference room. The Facilities and Info Systems staff were extremely helpful in assisting us!
- The outdoor book drop is showing its age. The lock needs to be replaced and while we wait for the new lock to arrive, it is closed. Additionally, the slot no longer effectively locks when we need it to.

Personnel updates:

- Our new office supervisor, Emily, started on Monday. We are training and orienting them to the many details of the organization. I want to thank all of the staff for pulling together to take on pieces of this job during its vacancy. The accounting, payroll and human resources tasks are formidable to add to one's regular duties.
- The teen librarian position has been offered to an internal candidate and we are negotiating the terms of pay and benefits. More to come next month.
- The Reference/Local History position has been posted.
 - Library Department Heads
 - Time off for holidays and vacation

Statistics:

December	FY23 this month	FY23 last month	FY22
Total circulation	30,154	31,640	32,507
Digital circulation	5,970	5,866	5,684
Foot Traffic	9,227	9,145	7,776
New Cards	60	63	52
Programming-all ages	62/1,695	63/1,497	61/947
Newsletter subscribers*	3,110	3,110	2,895
Computer use (sessions)	533	529	509
Wi-Fi use	15,394	15,811	1,451**

*updated Jan/Apr/Jul/Oct **different tracking system

Goodnow Library

This was the year to return to favorite traditions after the three year pandemic interruption. The library saw the return of Truck Day, Candyland, the Pumpkin Parade, the Volunteer Luncheon and in-person Summer Reading activities.



It was also a year for moving policy and equity forward. In January, the library officially eliminated late fines on library materials.

"We want you to come to the library. We want to make it as easy as possible. We don't want our rules and regulations to confuse or alienate you.

We are getting rid of our late fees so you can worry about other things in your life you really can't be late for, like, school, work or that project report. We want to talk about great books and programs with you, not argue about fines."

-Esme Green, Library Director

Additionally, we launched a newly designed and accessible website, developed a new five

year plan, and bid farewell to the last of the covid service restrictions. Many community groups returned to using the library meeting space, and once again, it became the place to "work from home" away from home.

Community Collaboration



Doing Good Fair This was the second fair the library has hosted. Every open space in the library was filled with over 50 different local organizations "doing good." Everyone who came learned something new about Sudbury. This was a multi-organizational collaboration between the library, the Sudbury Foundation and the Doing Good Committee.

Together We Play In a collaboration with the Commission on Disability and the Sudbury Cooperative Preschool, we invited the community to a series of educational programs during Global Diversity Awareness Month. The highlight was an event called "Together We Play" held at the library which celebrated disability awareness. Families gathered for a day of activities and author talks.

Pride Day The library held its first Pride Day event in June in partnership with the Sudbury Cooperative Preschool, Memorial



Congregational Church, Salem Five Bank, Hope Sudbury and several more community organizations. Events were held outdoors in the front of the library and across the street at Memorial Congregational Church with over 500 in attendance. The library provided a rainbow suncatcher craft and hired Just J.P. for a Drag Queen Storytime.

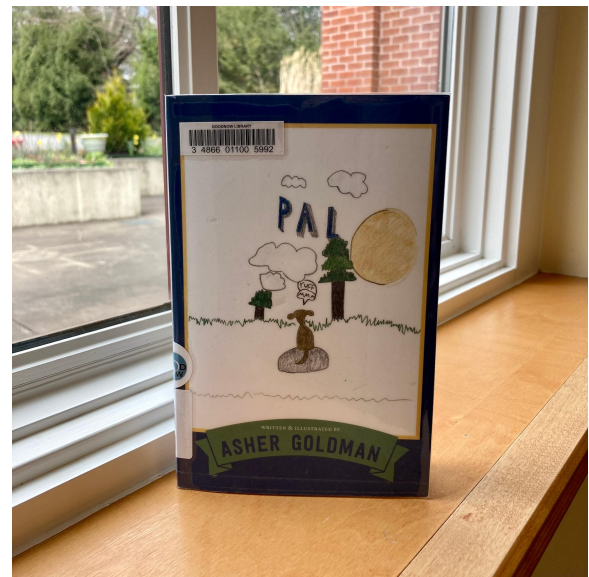
Equity Summit The library was invited to participate in a zoom event, hosted by Sudbury for Racial and Social Justice (S4RSJ). 20 groups doing DEI work in Sudbury were represented, and each shared their mission, goals, past/planned related activities/events, and how others can help with that work. The library shared its new strategic plan and relevant goals, as well as the many events it has hosted and planned.

New Initiatives

Free Period Products The library now offers free period products in all restrooms. The

library is committed to promoting inclusivity, and that includes period inclusivity. Menstrual equity is a health issue, and affects every person that has a period or knows someone with a period. The library views stocking menstrual products as fundamental as tissue and towels.

Local Lit Collection The Children's Department launched a new "Local Lit" collection of books written by local children. This collection gives children an opportunity to write original books for their peers. The collection's first book is "Pal," by Sudbury elementary student Asher Goldman. The synopsis: "A kid gets a new dog, but he has to go away for a whole day and leave the dog alone." To find out what happens, stop by the Children's Department to read "Pal" and others in the collection.



EV Car Charging Stations The library began collaborating with the Energy Commission to install an EV charging station in the library's parking lot. Funded through grant money, this project hopes to increase accessibility and awareness of the availability of EV charging in town.

Seed Library In August, we launched a seed exchange program. Largely self-serve, the seed library is located on the first floor of the library in the New Books area, and is part of our commitment of supporting sustainability in Sudbury.



Climate Prep Week Community members visited the Library throughout the week of September 24th to explore climate preparedness displays in the lobby, check out interesting books, and attend events. Attendees were invited to pick up free milkweed seeds to plant at home to support endangered monarch butterflies, and entered a raffle for the chance to win a prize. Children had a chance to meet with Miss Julie to read "We are Water Protectors" by Carole Lindstrom, and a number of sustainable craft programs were held for all ages.

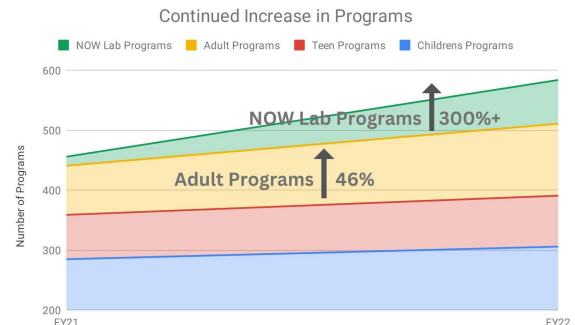
Strategic Plan

In October of this year the Trustees approved a new 5-year Strategic Plan. This is a vision of the future to ensure Goodnow is on a path to remain a community hub which enriches the lives of all patrons.

The 2022-2027 Strategic Plan was developed with survey and live input from key stakeholders with the guidance of our experienced staff. It is our long-term vision grounded in our foundational values. To

review the complete plan, visit the library website.

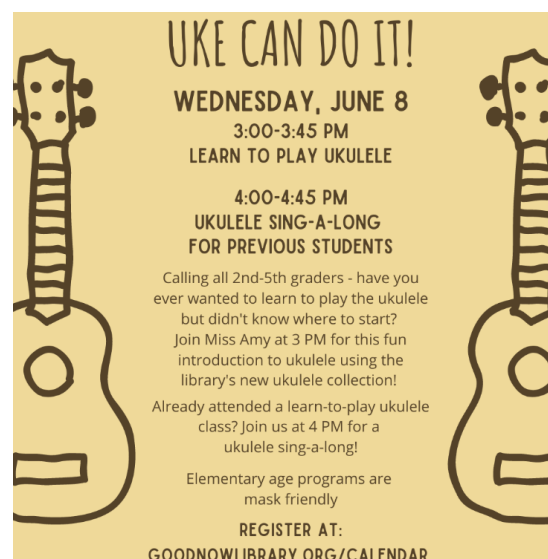
Programming



This year saw the return to regularly scheduled programming. We were excited to invite children, teens, adults, and seniors back into the library spaces for book clubs, holiday celebrations, makerspace activities, and more.

"My husband and son came to the Star Wars event today and both were blown away by your creativity and cannot stop talking about how fun it was. Our son said it was the best day of his life...and I just wanted you to know how much we appreciate you!" -Megan, Sudbury Parent

Ukuleles This year we added 12 ukuleles to the Library of Things. Participants were



invited to strum along with Miss Amy with the library's new Ukulele collection. This year, Goodnow began offering beginners classes, strum-a-longs, and more advanced workshops for patrons of all ages.

Free Little Art Gallery Sudbury's very own Free Little Art Gallery has been installed outside the Goodnow Library. Anyone is invited to create small art pieces to be placed in the gallery. Just like a Little Free Library in which visitors can both take and leave books, visitors to the Free Little Art Gallery are invited to both take and leave art.



Sara Sherman NOW Lab

Increased Programming This year, we increased access to the makerspace and engagement with the community. We added nine new volunteers and five new Open Hours time slots, started a Stuffie Surgery to repair Sudbury's Stuffed Animals, collaborated with the Sudbury Art Association to create the Free Little Art Gallery. New Ipads and Laptops were added, outfitted with new drawing, photo-editing, and publishing software for patrons use, and new volunteers taught popular beading and

sewing classes. Additionally, the library purchased five new sewing machines which allowed us to offer machine sewing classes.

Stuffie Surgery Big or small, short or tall, Sudbury Stuffie Surgery can mend them all! Two wonderful volunteers came weekly to repair tears, lost eyes and loose tails. This program in particular brought joy to families and staff alike.



Collaborations with community Staff in the makerspace worked with the police department to use the laser cutter to make letters to decorate their Santa sleigh for the annual Santa's Ride.



Tech Training for Seniors Library staff collaborated with the Foundation to hold two popular Tech Help events, where staff helped patrons understand how to access Goodnow's digital options, set up their devices and troubleshoot. Attendance exceeded expectations, and we plan to hold more sessions in the future.

Historic Room Renovation

We are thrilled to announce significant progress in the renovations for the Historical Room. With funds from the Community Preservation Committee, the Goodnow Family, the Sudbury Foundation, and the local community, we have nearly completed our project to renovate the Historical Room into a quiet space for reading, working, and studying that also includes protective shelving and cabinetry for our extensive historical collections.



Volunteers

The Library is indebted to its many community volunteers for their continued support, without whom many daily tasks at the Library could not be accomplished, including processing requests for books, movies and other items, assistance with program preparations, and many other

unseen tasks that enable the Library to provide the excellent service it does to the community.

Goodnow Library Foundation The GLF donated \$99,412 to the Library in 2022

Breakdown of giving:

- \$8,997 from the Book Nook's income was given to the Library for programs and activities.
- \$4,527 was given for the Director's Discretionary fund for such items as iPads for the Sara Sherman NOW Lab and Library staff training.
- \$438 went to supporting the Children's Room fish tank.
- \$2,000 in Memorial funds were donated to the Library to be used for a bench outside of the Children's Room.
- \$5,505 was given to pay for the Museum Passes.
- \$2,539 for the Walling Map restoration.
- \$75,406 for the Historical Room furniture.

The GLF's Book Nook hosted two in-person book sales and several pop-ups throughout the year. Between these sales and the in-library shelf and online sales, the Book Nook raised more than \$10K to support the library's programming and activities.



Statistical Snapshot

Statistical Report The library largely resumed business as usual this year, but note there were restrictions on the number of children at their programs and registration was required for a part of the year, and the meeting rooms opened for public use halfway through the year. This dampened the number of visitors from before the pandemic. Other than that, the numbers have increased over the previous year.

FY22 (July 1, 2021-June 30, 2022)		
	FY2022	FY2021
Total Circulation	334,665	314,804
Visitors	69,595	14,433*
Number of Children's Programs	306	285
Attendance of Children's Programs**	12,178	16,865
Number of Teen Programs	85	74
Attendance of Teen Programs	588	436
Number of Adult Programs	120	82
Attendance of Adult Programs	1,194	747

Financial Report The library eliminated overdue fines as of January 1, 2022, which is the halfway mark of the fiscal year. You will note a decrease in this line. We also merged the Lost Book fund with the Library Services fund, so this is the last year it will be listed.

FY22 (July 1, 2021-June 30, 2022)		
	Revenue	Expended
Lost Books-merged with Library Services		
Meeting Room Revolving Fund		
Passport-now called the Library Services Fund		
State Aid		
Fines		

Board of Trustees

Lily A. Gordon, Chair
 Natalie Schlegel, Vice Chair
 Katina Fontes
 Ingrid J. Mayyasi
 Jean Nam
 Barbara F. Pryor

Senior Library Staff

Esmé Green, Director
 Karen Tobin, Assistant Director
 Michael Briody, Head of Circulation
 Joanne Lee, Head of Reference
 Lily Nicolazzo, Teen Services Librarian
 Olivia Sederlund, Head of Technical Services
 Amy Stimac, Head of Children's Services

*closed or limited hours due to covid

**covid restrictions in place

Goodnow Library Programming Policy

Purpose of the Programming Policy:

The staff of the Goodnow Library offers programs intended to further the Library's mission. The library functions as an information, recreational, and cultural resource for the community. Programs are a means through which the public can share experiences, explore ideas, appreciate special interests, exchange information, connect with each other and with the Goodnow Library.

Library sponsorship of a program does not constitute an endorsement of the content of the program or the views expressed by participants, and program topics, speakers and resources are not excluded from programs because of possible controversy. Library programming will reflect a wide range of diverse perspectives and opinions.

In developing and delivering programs, the library staff utilizes staff expertise, collections, equipment, and facilities. The following criteria are used in making decisions about program topics, speakers, and accompanying resources:

- Community needs and interests
- Budget and cost of program
- Space required for program
- Presenter background/qualifications in content area
- Relevance/appropriateness of program to library's mission
- Staff time

Performers, speakers, community members, etc. may use our [Suggest a Program Form](#) to let the library know of programs that may be of interest to the Sudbury community. Priority is placed on community relationships and partnerships. Final decisions on what programs are offered are made by the Library Director.

At any Library sponsored event:

- All programs are free and open to the public.
- Programs may be held on site at the Library, off site, or online
 - Decisions related to whether the program is in person, hybrid, or virtual are made by the coordinating staff in collaboration with the performer or speaker.
 - A program may be converted to virtual as needed (weather, speaker issues, etc.). We will make every effort to let potential participants know about such a change.
- Professional performers are selected by Library staff.

- Program attendance will not exceed the capacity of its space as determined by the fire code.
- Programs may be designed for and limited to a specific audience, age, or grade level.
- Decisions concerning an event's audience, registration, capacity, late arrivals, and allowable walk-ins will be made by the Library staff supervising the event. Patrons will respect decisions made by Library staff with the presenter's input regarding an event's audience, registration, capacity, late arrivals, and allowable walk-ins.

Ticketing or Registration

- Some events may require tickets or registration. This is done in order to maintain correct room or venue capacity.
- Allow the presenter to prepare for the number of people attending.
- Registration begins at least two weeks before the program.
- All registered attendees will be sent a reminder about the upcoming event at least 48 hours in advance.
- We request that registered individuals notify the organizers as soon as possible if they are unable to attend in order to allow other people to register.
- In cases of high demand programs (such as limited seating craft programs), if a patron repeatedly doesn't show with no prior notification, they may be blocked from registering for these types of events for up to 3 months.

Wait lists

For high-demand events, we may create a waitlist in lieu of allowing walk-ins. The waitlist will be activated as soon as registration is full. Should space become available, we will make every effort to notify waitlisted patrons in time for them to attend the event. If there is still space, walk-ins will be allowed.

Event Promotion

The Library can only promote library-sponsored programs. The library staff is responsible for program graphics which adhere to our branding guide. All external graphics must be approved for use by the supervising staff or library director in regards to collaborative programs. If time and space allows, the Library may share community program information.

Event Management

Even in the event of pre-registration, the Library does not guarantee seating once a program has begun. If the event does not have a waitlist, walk-ins may be allowed to fill unclaimed spots. In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), we will make sure there is seating available for anyone who needs accommodation. The Library

requests at least two weeks of notice for any accommodation such as an interpreter, listening devices, etc. All are welcome and we are happy to make reasonable accommodations. Patrons causing a disruption of an in-person program may be asked to leave by the supervising staff or Library Director. Caregivers are responsible for their children's conduct. Attendees causing a disruption during a virtual program may be muted or removed from the Zoom.

Program Reconsideration

Only Sudbury residents may request a program reconsideration. Requests must be submitted in writing to the Director of the Library at least 2 weeks prior to a program. Please fill out the "[Request for Review of Library Program](#)." All reconsideration requests will be reviewed by the Library Director and, if needed, be discussed with the Board of Library Trustees. The Director will inform the requester of their decision at least 2 days prior to the program.

Authors or booksellers may sell books as part of a library program. Programs sponsored by the Goodnow Library Foundation may include the sale of merchandise as a fundraiser to benefit the library. Sale of any other products at library programs is not permitted unless authorized by the Library Director or designee.

Use of Bulletin Boards

The Goodnow Library is committed to disseminating information that is of general interest to the community and, as such, provides limited space for the free distribution of handouts and the public posting of flyers, notices, and posters.

Bulletin Boards

- All notices for display must be brought to the Circulation Desk for approval and posting.
- The library's policy is to post notices from the library, Foundation, town boards and agencies, other government agencies, local and regional civic, social, educational and cultural groups and other non-profit organizations.
- First priority is given to notices from the library, Foundation, and town boards and agencies.
- Personal notices are not allowed.
- For sale and other commercial advertisements or announcements, daycare and other "for hire" services are prohibited from the bulletin boards, with the exception of private tutoring, music lessons, and other courses, which are only allowed to be posted on the inside bulletin board with permission from the library. (See the Head of Circulation.)
- Notices will be posted for up to 4 weeks, depending on available space.
- Notices posted without approval by the library staff will be removed.
- Some approved items may not be posted due to space restrictions. Library staff reserves the right to select notices for events with the widest appeal.

The decision by the library to include a posting on the bulletin board does not in any way constitute an endorsement of the views or policies of the poster.



GLF Report January 2023

1. GLF Year-End Fundraising Results

- Year-end appeal has brought in **approximately \$37,000** to date.
- **Total money raised by the GLF in 2022 was approximately \$131,000**, which includes Annual Fund, Historical Room funds, Wayside Inn event income, Book Nook income.

2. New Director

- Sarah Olson Liberman took over for Holly Bernene this month. Holly is continuing to volunteer with the GLF and is helping to co-chair the annual fundraiser on May 5 (more on that below).

3. Endowment

- The Endowment Committee is regrouping and will be meeting in the coming weeks.

4. Strategic Planning

- The GLF held a strategic planning retreat on Saturday, January 7 to begin the process of updating the 3–5-year strategic plan, which will aim to complement and support the plan just completed by the Library and approved by the Trustees.

5. Upcoming events

- **Book Nook Book Sale: March 23–25**
- **Annual fundraiser:** Celebrating the 15th anniversary of the GLF on May 5, 5–8pm, at the library. This is a shift back to the traditional spring fundraiser timing, following three years of fall events due to Covid. Also shifting to focus on annual sponsorships.

Ensuring your right to read



Freedom from censorship

Librarians find themselves on the front line of book challenges and disruptions centered mainly around LGBTQ+ and race themed books and programs. Since 2021 book challenges and disruptions have more than quadrupled in the Commonwealth. While we recognize the right to challenge, we're also working to build understanding and ensuring that everyone can see themselves reflected in our collections and services.

Digital equity through Networks

Access to reliable internet is an issue of economic, educational, and social equity. The MBLC provides grants to library Networks to make internet and community Wi-Fi access affordable. This is an essential service for the estimated four-in-ten adults with lower incomes who do not have home broadband. (2) With libraries hosting 7,200 internet sessions on library computers daily and lending out laptops, tablets and hotspots, we're working together to make sure reliable internet is available for all.

Accessibility for all

With more than 780,000 people** with disabilities living in Massachusetts, expanding access to library services is a priority. Whether it's a newspaper, a website, the new best seller in large print, or simply a text or email, the talking book libraries at Perkins and Worcester are working to ensure that everyone can read what they want, when they want. Librarians across the state have been trained to increase accessibility for residents who are visually impaired and for people who are deaf and hard of hearing.



Perkins (budget line 7000-9406) and Worcester (budget line 7000-9402) are priorities.

Cybersecurity

Networks are very aware of and are preparing against cyberattacks, especially since patron privacy (protected by Mass General Law) is integral to public library service. The online technical support Networks provide to libraries makes daily library transactions, like checking out a book, possible. A cyberattack on one of the Networks could shut down library services for an entire region of the state.

Budget line 7000-9506 is a priority.

Legislative Agenda FY2024

Massachusetts Libraries
BOARD OF LIBRARY COMMISSIONERS

Unfair eBook pricing and practices

Exorbitant eBook pricing and restrictive publisher licensing rules make it difficult to keep up with demand. (1) *Residents wait on average more than a month for an eBook.

Here's an example:

Lessons in Chemistry: A Novel
(9780385547376)
by Bonnie Garmus

LIBRARY PRICING for the eBook \$55.00	CONSUMER PRICING for eBook \$14.99
RESTRICTIONS on library eBook: License expires after 24 months.	RESTRICTIONS on consumer eBook: Ownership does not expire.
LIBRARY PRICING for eAudio \$95.00	CONSUMER PRICING for eAudio \$24.99
RESTRICTIONS on library eAudio: License expires after 12 months.	RESTRICTIONS on eAudio: License does not expire.

Budget line 7000-9506 is a priority.



mblclegislativeagenda.com

1. <https://www.readersfirst.org/publisher-price-watch>

2. <https://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2021/06/22/digital-divide-persists-even-as-americans-with-lower-incomes-make-gains-in-tech-adoption/>

*Wait times are based on a 90 day report provided by OverDrive and vary by Network but all are more than 30 days.

**From the Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission fact sheet



Ensuring
your right
to read



Legislative Agenda FY 2024

Massachusetts Libraries
BOARD OF LIBRARY COMMISSIONERS

Line Item Number	Line Name	FY2022 Budget	FY2023 Budget	FY2024 Request	Increase Over FY2023
7000-9101	<i>Board of Library Commissioners</i>	\$1,702,272*	\$1,731,586	\$1,904,745	\$173,159
7000-9401	<i>Regional Libraries Local Aid</i>	\$14,100,731	\$14,516,000	\$15,967,600	\$1,451,600
** 7000-9402	<i>Talking Book Program Worcester</i>	\$518,222	\$521,569	\$678,040	\$156,471
** 7000-9406	<i>Talking Book Program (Perkins) Watertown</i>	\$2,950,499	\$2,969,554	\$3,860,420	\$890,866
7000-9501	<i>State Aid to Public Libraries</i>	\$13,562,408	\$16,000,000	\$17,600,000	\$1,600,000
** 7000-9506	<i>Technology & Automated Resource - Sharing</i>	\$4,713,848	\$4,744,293	\$6,167,581	\$1,423,288
7000-9508	<i>Center for the Book</i>	\$312,979	\$400,000	\$440,000	\$40,000
		\$36,361,524,	\$40,883,002	\$46,618,385	\$5,735,383



* includes 2 earmarks for \$25,000 and \$50,000
** Funding priorities



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