

**NORTHEASTERN MANITOULIN AND THE ISLANDS**

**PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD**

**MEETING MINUTES OF**

**February 18, 2025**

Present: In Person:  
April Aelick, Brenda Dewar, Ned Martin, Melissa Volpini, Nola Thompson  
By Zoom:  
Laurie Cook

Regrets: Mark Ansara, Rosemary Burnett

Also present: Kathy Berry, CEO/Librarian,

The meeting was called to order by Ned Martin, Board Chairperson, at 4:17 p.m.

Moved by: Brenda Dewar  
Seconded by: Melissa Volpini  
Resolved that the Agenda for February 18, 2025 be approved. (cd)

**Declarations of pecuniary interest:** None

Moved by: Brenda Dewar  
Seconded by: Melissa Volpini  
Resolved that the Minutes of the meeting held December 17, 2024 be approved. (cd)

**Business arising from the minutes:** None

**Correspondence:** None

**Treasurer's Report:**

Ned Martin, Board Chair, reviewed the financial statement for the month ending December 31, 2024. The special projects area of the financial statement was reviewed by Kathy Berry, Board Treasurer.

Moved by: April Aelick  
Seconded by: Brenda Dewar  
Resolved that the financial report for the month ending November 30, 2024, be adopted. (cd)

Moved by: Melissa Volpini  
Seconded by: Laurie Cook  
Resolved that the financial report for the month ending January 31, 2025, be adopted. (cd)

**Librarian's Report:**

Presented by Library CEO, Kathy Berry.



**NORTHEASTERN MANITOULIN AND THE ISLANDS**

**PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD**

**MEETING MINUTES OF**

**March 18, 2025**

Present: In Person:  
Mark Ansara, Brenda Dewar, Ned Martin, Nola Thompson, Melissa Volpini  
By Zoom:  
Laurie Cook, Rosemary Burnett

Regrets: April Aelick

Also present: Kathy Berry, CEO/Librarian,

The meeting was called to order by Ned Martin, Board Chairperson, at 3:58 p.m.

Moved by: Brenda Dewar

Seconded by: Melissa Volpini

Resolved that the Agenda for March 18, 2025 be approved. (cd)

**Declarations of pecuniary interest:** None

Moved by: Rosemary Burnett

Seconded by: Melissa Volpini

Resolved that the Minutes of the meeting held February 18, 2025 be approved. (cd)

**Business arising from the minutes:** None

**Correspondence:** None

**Treasurer's Report:**

Ned Martin, Board Chair, reviewed the financial statement for the month ending February 28, 2025. The special projects area of the financial statement was reviewed by Kathy Berry, Board Treasurer.

Moved by: Brenda Dewar

Seconded by: Nola Thompson

Resolved that the financial report for the month ending February 28, 2025, be adopted. (cd)

**Librarian's Report:**

Presented by Library CEO, Kathy Berry.

Moved by: Mark Ansara

Seconded by: Melissa Volpini

Resolved that the Librarian's Report be adopted. (cd)



**NORTHEASTERN MANITOULIN AND THE ISLANDS**

**PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD**

**MEETING MINUTES OF**

**April 15, 2025**

Present: In Person:  
April Aelick, Mark Ansara, Brenda Dewar, Ned Martin, Melissa Volpini

By Zoom:  
Rosemary Burnett, Laurie Cook

Regrets: Nola Thompson

Also present: Kathy Berry, CEO/Librarian,

The meeting was called to order by Ned Martin, Board Chairperson, at 4:00 p.m.

Moved by: Brenda Dewar

Seconded by: April Aelick

Resolved that the Agenda for April 15, 2025 be approved. (cd)

**Declarations of pecuniary interest:** None

Moved by: Mark Ansara

Seconded by: Melissa Volpini

Resolved that the Minutes of the meeting held March 18, 2025 be approved. (cd)

**Business arising from the minutes:** None

**Correspondence:** None

**Treasurer's Report:**

Ned Martin, Board Chair, reviewed the financial statement for the month ending March 31, 2025. The special projects area of the financial statement was reviewed by Kathy Berry, Board Treasurer.

Moved by: April Aelick

Seconded by: Brenda Dewar

Resolved that the financial report for the month ending March 31, 2025, be adopted. (cd)



**NORTHEASTERN MANITOULIN AND THE ISLANDS**  
**PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD**  
**MEETING MINUTES OF**  
**May 27, 2025**

Present: In Person:  
Mark Ansara, Ned Martin, Nola Thompson, Melissa Volpini

By Zoom:  
Laurie Cook

Regrets: April Aelick, Rosemary Burnett, Brenda Dewar

Also present: Kathy Berry, CEO/Librarian,

The meeting was called to order by Ned Martin, Board Chairperson, at 4:03 p.m.

Moved by: Mark Ansara

Seconded by: Melissa Volpini

Resolved that the Agenda for May 27, 2025 be approved. (cd)

**Declarations of pecuniary interest:** None

Moved by: Laurie Cook

Seconded by: Mark Ansara

Resolved that the Minutes of the meeting held April 15, 2025 be approved. (cd)

**Business arising from the minutes:** None

**Correspondence:** None

**Treasurer's Report:**

Ned Martin, Board Chair, reviewed the financial statement for the month ending April 30, 2025. The special projects area of the financial statement was reviewed by Kathy Berry, Board Treasurer.

Moved by: Melissa Volpini

Seconded by: Nola Thompson

Resolved that the financial report for the month ending April 30, 2025, be adopted. (cd)



**NORTHEASTERN MANITOULIN AND THE ISLANDS**  
**PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD**  
**MEETING MINUTES OF**  
**June 17, 2025**

Present: In Person:  
April Aelick, Mark Ansara, Brenda Dewar, Ned Martin, Nola Thompson,

By Zoom:  
Laurie Cook

Regrets: Rosemary Burnett, Melissa Volpini

Also present: Kathy Berry, CEO/Librarian,

The meeting was called to order by Ned Martin, Board Chairperson, at 4:00 p.m.

Moved by: Brenda Dewar

Seconded by: Mark Ansara

Resolved that the Agenda for June 17, 2025 be approved. (cd)

**Declarations of pecuniary interest:** None

Moved by: Mark Ansara

Seconded by: Laurie Cook

Resolved that the Minutes of the meeting held May 27, 2025 be approved. (cd)

**Business arising from the minutes:** None

**Correspondence:** None

**Treasurer's Report:**

Ned Martin, Board Chair, reviewed the financial statement for the month ending May 31, 2025. The special projects area of the financial statement was reviewed by Kathy Berry, Board Treasurer.

Moved by: Brenda Dewar

Seconded by: Nola Thompson

Resolved that the financial report for the month ending May 31, 2025, be adopted. (cd)



**NORTHEASTERN MANITOULIN AND THE ISLANDS**  
**PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD**  
**MEETING MINUTES OF**  
**September 23, 2025**

Present: In Person:  
April Aelick, Mark Ansara, Brenda Dewar, Ned Martin, Nola Thompson, Melissa Volpini

By Zoom:  
Laurie Cook

Regrets: Rosemary Burnett

Also present: Kathy Berry, CEO/Librarian/Treasurer

The meeting was called to order by Ned Martin, Board Chairperson, at 4:03 p.m.

Moved by: April Aelick

Seconded by: Nola Thompson

Resolved that the Agenda for September 23, 2025 be approved. (cd)

**Declarations of pecuniary interest:** None

Moved by: Brenda Dewar

Seconded by: Laurie Cook

Resolved that the Minutes of the meeting held June 17, 2025 be approved. (cd)

**Business arising from the minutes:**

Ned Martin, Board Chair, queried board members as to their satisfaction with the development of the library's Mission and Vision Statements, after consideration over the course of the summer. There were no concerns raised.

**Correspondence:** None

**Treasurer's Report:**

Ned Martin reviewed the financial statement for the month ending August 31, 2025, noting that the operating deficit, once adjusted for pro-rated anticipated funding, was reduced to just over \$1,000. The library's own sourced revenues are at 83% of budget, which will bring operations closer to budget by year end.

The special projects area of the financial statement was reviewed by Kathy Berry.

Moved by: Mark Ansara

Seconded by: Brenda Dewar

Resolved that the financial report for the month ending May 31, 2025, be adopted. (cd)

**Librarian's Report:**

Presented by Library CEO, Kathy Berry.

Moved by: April Aelick  
Seconded by: Melissa Volpini  
Resolved that the Librarian's Report be adopted. (cd)

Moved by: Laurie Cook  
Seconded by: Nola Thompson  
Resolved that the Librarian's request to close the Library on Thanksgiving weekend's Saturday October 11 be approved on a one-time basis. (cd)

Moved by: Brenda Dewar  
Seconded by: April Aelick  
Resolved that the Board approve the Librarian's plan to utilize \$1,500 of the 2025 McGillivray Foundation funding for staff wages to organize equipment and resources for improved accessibility and utilization be adopted. (cd)

**Reports of Committees:**

The Finance Committee met September 18, 2025 to prepare a draft budget to be submitted for board approval

**New Business:**

Reminder that the position of Vice Chair is still available and to be considered by board members for further discussion at the next library board meeting. Position description details will be circulated to board members shortly.

Ned Martin described the process to develop the draft 2026 budget, and recognized the detailed work by Kathy Berry to prepare the document. The budget continues the Board's commitment to match the wage percentage increases for municipal staff, as well as continuing to add to the lump sum hourly wage increases (2025 - \$2, 2026 - \$1 and planned 2027 - \$1). The Fundraising committee was asked to raise \$1,200 over the course of the year, as part of its planning process. April Aelick agreed to report on Committee plans at the next board meeting.


Moved by: April Aelick  
Seconded by: Brenda Dewar  
Whereas the proposed NEMI Public Library 2026 budget includes an operating component of \$135,940 (6.45% over 2025) and a contribution from the Town in the amount of \$109,370 (8.31% over 2025), resolved that the proposed budget be approved for inclusion in the Town's 2026 budget preparations. (cd)

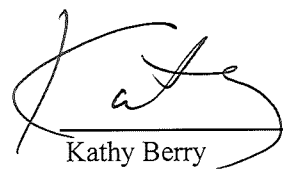
The October 21, 2025 board meeting is likely to run long to accommodate initial work on a Strategic Plan for the Library.

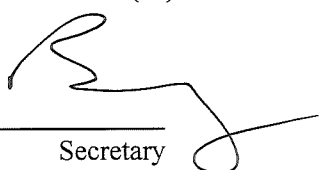
**Next meeting date:** October 21, 2025

**Adjournment:**

Moved by: Brenda Dewar  
Resolved that this meeting be adjourned at 4:43p.m. (cd)

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Ned Martin Chairperson

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Kathy Berry Secretary



**NORTHEASTERN MANITOULIN AND THE ISLANDS**  
**PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD**  
**MEETING MINUTES OF**  
**October 21, 2025**

Present: In Person:  
Mark Ansara, Laurie Cook, Brenda Dewar, Ned Martin

By Zoom: Nola Thompson

Regrets: April Aelick, Melissa Volpini

Absent: Rosemary Burnett

Also present: Kathy Berry, CEO/Librarian/Treasurer

The meeting was called to order by Ned Martin, Board Chairperson, at 4:04 p.m.

Moved by: Brenda Dewar

Seconded by: Laurie Cook

Resolved that the Agenda for October 21, 2025 be approved. (cd)

**Declarations of pecuniary interest:** None

Moved by: Brenda Dewar

Seconded by: Mark Ansara

Resolved that the Minutes of the meeting held September 23, 2025 be approved. (cd)

**Business arising from the minutes:**

Ned Martin opened the discussion regarding the open position of Vice Chair. An updated position description was circulated to board members prior to the meeting. Brenda Dewar nominated herself with the understanding that she would like to sit in on all financial meetings to learn that side of the responsibilities better. Brenda was the sole nomination, seconded by Nola Thompson. There being no other nominees, Brenda was acclaimed to the position of Vice Chair.

**Correspondence:** None

**Treasurer's Report:**

Ned Martin reviewed the financial statement for the month ending September 30, 2025.

The special projects area of the financial statement was reviewed by Kathy Berry.

Moved by: Laurie Cook

Seconded by: Nola Thompson

Resolved that the financial report for the month ending September 30, 2025, be adopted. (cd)



**NORTHEASTERN MANITOULIN AND THE ISLANDS**

**PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD**

**MEETING MINUTES OF**

**November 11, 2025**

Present: In Person:  
April Aelick, Laurie Cook, Ned Martin, Nola Thompson, Melissa Volpini

By Zoom: Brenda Dewar (joined at 4:18pm)

Regrets: Mark Ansara, Rosemary Burnett

Also present: Kathy Berry, CEO/Librarian/Treasurer

The meeting was called to order by Ned Martin, Board Chairperson, at 4:06 p.m.

Moved by: April Aelick

Seconded by: Laurie Cook

Resolved that the Agenda for November 11, 2025 be approved. (cd)

**Declarations of pecuniary interest:** None

Moved by: Nola Thompson

Seconded by: April Aelick

Resolved that the Minutes of the meeting held October 21, 2025 be approved. (cd)

**Business arising from the minutes:**

**Correspondence:** None

**Treasurer's Report:**

Ned Martin reviewed the financial statement for the month ending October 31, 2025.

The special projects area of the financial statement was reviewed by Kathy Berry.

Moved by: April Aelick

Seconded by: Melissa Volpini

Resolved that the financial report for the month ending October 31, 2025, be adopted. (cd)

**Librarian's Report:**

Presented by Library CEO, Kathy Berry.

Moved by: Nola Thompson

Seconded by: April Aelick

Resolved that the Librarian's Report be adopted. (cd)

**Reports of Committees:**

Did not meet. However, The Fundraising, Programming and Special Events Committee will explore the Town's directory of businesses in preparation for a fund-raising event in the new year.

**New Business:**

Strategic Planning discussions took place. Board members reviewed the strategic planning worksheet developed by Kathy Berry. Board members made suggestions regarding additional goals and objectives. Kathy Berry will incorporate the suggestions into a Draft Strategic Plan for board members to identify priorities and make suggestions for any necessary changes. The draft Strategic Plan will be completed and submitted well in advance of the February 2026 board meeting.


Board members were made aware of the annual OLS virtual conference events on Nov. 19 (staff) & Nov. 20 (Board).


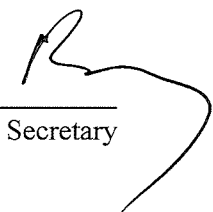
**Next meeting date:** December 16, 2025

**Adjournment:**

Moved by: Brenda Dewar

Resolved that this meeting be adjourned at 5:18 p.m. (cd)

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Ned Martin Chairperson

   
\_\_\_\_\_  
Kathy Berry Secretary

**NORTHEASTERN MANITOULIN AND THE ISLANDS**

**PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD**

**MEETING MINUTES OF**

**December 16, 2025**

Present: In Person:  
April Aelick, Laurie Cook, Ned Martin, Melissa Volpini

By Zoom: Brenda Dewar

Regrets: Rosemary Burnett, Nola Thompson  
Absent: Mark Ansara

Also present: Kathy Berry, CEO/Librarian/Treasurer

The meeting was called to order by Ned Martin, Board Chairperson, at 4p.m.

Moved by: Melissa Volpini

Seconded by: Laurie Cook

Resolved that the Agenda for December 16, 2025 be approved. (cd)

**Declarations of pecuniary interest:** None

Moved by: Melissa Volpini

Seconded by: Brenda Dewar

Resolved that the Minutes of the meeting held November 11, 2025 be approved. (cd)

**Business arising from the minutes:**

**Correspondence:** None

**Treasurer's Report:**

Ned Martin reviewed the financial statement for the month ending November 30, 2025.

The special projects area of the financial statement was reviewed by Kathy Berry.

Moved by: April Aelick

Seconded by: Melissa Volpini

Resolved that the financial report for the month ending November 30, 2025, be adopted. (cd)

