

Minutes of the May 19, 2025 meeting of the Etna Library Trustees

In attendance:

Jeff Metzler-Director

Sarah Molesworth – Assistant Librarian

Betsy Storrs- trustee

Sharry Baker-trustee

John Collier- trustee

Acceptance of the minutes of the April meeting; all agreed.

Librarian's Report

April Patron Visits

- 957
- Last month, March: 866
- April, 2024: 1,106
- April, 2023: 510

April Programs

- Arts & Crafts Club (1 gathering) – 11 attendees
- Cookbook Club (1 gathering) – 14 attendees
- Story Times (3 gatherings) – 0 to 6 attendees
- LEGO Club (3 gatherings) – 19 to 40 attendees
- Knitting Group (2 gatherings) - 3, 4 attendees
- Universal Yums (1 gathering) – 8 attendees
- Book Group (1 gathering) – 8 attendees
- Everest to End Duchenne – 63 attendees
- Beginner's Guide to Cemetery Sleuthing – 36 attendees
- Recycled Crafts – 8 attendees
- Recycled Art Show – 26 attendees

April Circulation

- Items OWNED by Etna: 1,348
- Previous Month, March: 1,294
- April, 2024: 1,182
- April, 2023: 888

- Items CIRCULATED AT Etna: 1,251
- Previous Month, March: 1,151
- April, 2024: 1,127
- April, 2023: 878

April Website Visits

- Site Sessions: 505 (512 in April)

- Unique Visitors: 359 (329 in April)

April Donations

- Jack & Dorothy Byrne Foundation, \$7,000 (received as a grant to build new a new bookcase and shelves)
- An additional \$1,100 from two different donors

Updates from the Director

- Jeff presented a packet of information that he had put together and the information was reviewed and discussed. One portion of the packet was focused on future plans, including evaluating the possibilities of a second addition to the building.
- Gazebo update provided - Gazebo has been ordered with screens and benches; expected delivery in late July or early August.
- July 12, volunteer appreciation event was discussed.
- The library has given out more than 150 packets of seed from the seed library so far this growing season.
- Town Manager Rob Houseman has asked for a meeting with the trustees this spring; Jeff will orchestrate this.
- Organization of Historic Materials: the library has been receiving many more donated items of local historic interest including a phone from 1908. Working to better organize, with involvement from the Etna Historical Society.
- Summer Reading Programs: Will start on June 21st. Color Your World CLSP (Collaborative Library Summer Program). Reading logs for kids with bags; raffle slips for teens and adults
- Summer Reading Sponsors: Ramuntos; The Fourth Place; the Co-Op; Etna Country Store; Hanover Scoops; Norwich Bookstore; Upper Valley Integration Therapy; Mighty Yoga; Nugget Theater; Katie's Cookies (Only lost Umpleby's). Around \$600 in prizes.

Upcoming Programs

- Tuesday, May 20th at 5:30pm (Trumbull Hall): US Foreign Policy Under the Trump Administration: Elizabeth Shackelford will discuss the dramatic ways that US foreign policy has changed under President Trump.

June meeting date:

Monday, June 16th at 5 pm