

PLAISTOW PUBLIC LIBRARY
SPECIAL MEETING OF BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Wednesday, August 20, 2025

The Plaistow Public Library Board of Trustees held a Special Meeting at the Library on Wednesday, August 20, 2025, at 4:30 pm.

Present: Megan Lee, Chair
Jennifer Kiarsis, Secretary
Rosemarie Bayek, Treasurer
Randall Mikkelsen, Member at Large
Michelle Sykes, Member at Large
Mary Gori, Alternate
Kathleen Slade, Alternate

Not Present: Michelle Sykes, Member at Large

Others Present: Jennifer Dawley, Assistant Director and Children's Librarian
Dan Garlington, Highway Supervisor, Town of Plaistow
Ridgely Fanara - Integrity Gardens
Bill Ficara - Exeter Land Contractors

The purpose of this Special Meeting was to walk about the Meadow Project to get a rough estimate of the cost to remove the top layer of material to establish a new base and hydro seed.

Dan Garlington was invited to meet with us to see if the Town would allow Bill to dump the top soil layer in the Town facility for such refuse. Dan advised that it might be possible, but that for certain no Town vehicles or personnel would be able to assist. Since Bill is from Exeter, the cost of hauling the refuse to and from would be prohibitive. Also Dan suggested that the Library have a surveyor draw out the grading of the area. He was concerned about Spring flooding, as well as changing any of the grading which might cause an issue with abutters. The group agreed that this step was a good one and was one we had not thought about.

Another thought Dan had was concerning the parking lot and the water pipe being proposed across the driveway. His concern was cracking and heaving of the pavement over the water pipe. Since the Library is in the process of having pavement work done in the near future, and a pipe installed to bring the sprinkler system over to the meadow, Dan was concerned about the depth of the pipe and its effect on the driveway. Water is a huge concern for him, and he stated that water has a way of taking its course even if you try to change it.

Bill measured the field and came back with an estimate of approximately \$15,000. This cost included the removal of the top soil and hauling to a facility in Plaistow.

Bill and Ridgely both suggested that perhaps the scope of the project should be reduced, and that planned pocket gardens could be formed on the portion of the meadow that was more flat. This area is behind the trees in front of the Library, and the rest of the meadow could be overseeded with wildflowers and cut 2-3 times a season.

Megan and Jenn K were concerned about the area in front of the parking lot. They suggested that perhaps a narrow planned area could be created to make the view from parking area more attractive. Perhaps a path with a side garden could lead into the rest of the planned meadow.

The group agreed the first step is to get a company/person to do the grading map for the meadow. Then Ridgely and Bill will come back to "spray paint" the flower bed areas.

Adjourned at 5:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Kiarsis
Secretary