

Georgia Public Library  
1697 Ethan Allen Highway  
Georgia, Vermont 05454  
(802) 524-4643  
[www.georgiapubliclibraryvt.org](http://www.georgiapubliclibraryvt.org)  
librarydirector@townofgeorgia.com



**Library Trustees**  
Nicole Jamison, Chair  
Debbie Mann, Vice Chair  
Kollene Caspers, Secretary  
Terry Cleveland, Treasurer  
Craig Volatile-Wood, Trustee

**Georgia Public Library Special Trustee Meeting: 2026 Budget**  
**Wednesday, October 1, 2025 4:30pm**  
**Location: Georgia Public Library**  
**MINUTES**

Trustees Present: Kollene Caspers, Terry Cleveland, Nicole Jamison, Debbie Mann  
Staff Present: Bridget Stone

1. Call to order: 4:33pm
2. Additions, deletions, or changes to the Agenda:
  - D. Mann requested to add the Revitalization Meeting overview for capital budget background information.
3. Revitalization Committee Update:
  - D. Mann and T. Cleveland recounted the Committee's meeting with the architect and engineer on September 30<sup>th</sup> and shared the site plans for potential changes for ADA compliance. This was necessary for the discussion on budgeting capital funds for the potential project.
4. 2026 Budget Discussion
  - T. Cleveland shared budgeting documents with the Trustees.
  - Trustees participated in budget discussion of existing line items. New line items for background checks and legal were suggested.
  - The Selectboard has requested the GPL budget for a 3.5% increase in all areas but salaries and benefits. Budgeting for increases in books and programming budgets would push this budget to 10%-15% or higher.
  - Budgeting to add Hoopla or other e-book services was discussed by the Trustees again.
  - B. Stone provided the 2024 Vermont Department of Library statistics excerpts for comparison of GPL among other libraries of similar size and population.
  - GPL has 1,137 total registered borrowers, with 11,143 annual library visits every year and 19,044 total physical items (books/video/audio/nontraditional items).
  - The Trustees discussed how a large increase in the 2026 budget would be received by the Georgia community if there would also be a bond for the library renovation project.
  - A *Friends of the Library* group discussion was revisited, as this is an opportunity for additional funding for GPL.
  - Discussion was had about the possibility of adding another full-time librarian and the costs associated with a full-time hire.
  - Budget documents included a 5.5% raise for the Library Director, a 5.26% raise for the Library Assistant, and 3.5% raises for the other staff and substitutes. Discussion on salaries for specific employees was moved into Executive Session.
5. Executive Session

D. Mann would entertain a motion to enter into executive session to discuss Personnel & salaries for budgeting purposes, which premature disclosure or discussion may be detrimental to the board in itself and/or individuals involved.

Motion to Move into Executive Session at 6:07pm

Motion made by T. Cleveland, Seconded by N. Jamison

Voting Yea: D. Mann, K. Caspers, T. Cleveland, N. Jamison

D. Mann would entertain a motion to enter into Executive Session to discuss the above with Library Director B. Stone under the provisions of Title 1, Section 313(a)(1)(A) of the Vermont Statutes.

Motion to invite B. Stone to join the Executive Session

Motion made by T. Cleveland, Seconded by N. Jamison

Voting Yea: D. Mann, K. Caspers, T. Cleveland, N. Jamison

Motion to Exit out of Executive Session at 6:30pm

Motion made by N. Jamison, Seconded by T. Cleveland

Voting Yea: D. Mann, K. Caspers, T. Cleveland, N. Jamison

No action taken out of Executive Session.

6. Adjourn

D. Mann made the motion to adjourn at 6:30pm.

Voting Yea: D. Mann, K. Caspers, T. Cleveland, N. Jamison