LYME LIBRARY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MEETING MINUTES
September 30, 2026

PRESENT: Laura Mooney, Chair, Joan Motyka, Vice Chair, Michael Prill, Lilian King, Lori Cane – by phone, Holly Rubino – Friends of LPL, Beverly Crowther –LPL Foundation, Melissa Fournier, Library Director.

1. CALL TO ORDER:
Chair Laura Mooney called the meeting to order at 5:05

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:
Lilian King MOTIONED for the minutes from June 2026 to be accepted as written; seconded by Holly Rubino. Minutes accepted unanimously.

3. REPORT FROM THE FOUNDATION: Beverly Crowther shared that the Ivoryton Theatre fund raiser was a success and enjoyed by all in attendance. Decision made by the Foundation to send Invitations by email only. Short discussion ensued with recommendations to place ads at Tiffany Farms Market, Town Hall, and Lyme Line to communicate more widely to those not already aware of the event.

4. REPORT FROM LIBRARY FRIENDS: Holly Rubino reported the recent Book Sale was successful with the sale netted $4200.00.

There have been some officer moves among the Library Friends – Christine Carter and Holly Rubino are now Co-Presidents and Jeanne Rutigliano is now Secretary and Anna James Treasurer. Holly also shared that an appeal letter and membership reminder would be sent out in late October.

The Friends supported approximately $5000 for adult programs; $1200 for Oscar events and $1400 for refreshments this year.

A brief discussion followed on ways to move books up and down from the basement prior to the sale. The Friends are exploring renting a temporary conveyor belt to assist during the critical period for next year.

Holly also shared that during the holiday period last year there were some things the Friends supported that they likely would not do in the future.

5. REPORT FROM THE SWEET SPOT – Lori Cane. On average 25 people attend monthly. Many repeats and always some new faces. Jeanne sends notes to the new people,

welcoming them to the library and encouraging them to enjoy other hours, especially Thursday evenings until 6pm. Next Sweet Spot will be on November 3. Lori encouraged those willing to bake to do so.

6) LIBRARY DIRECTORS REPORT (see last week's email with agenda and Director's report). Melissa shared that the library is becoming a gathering spot for an increasing number of people. Overall attendance increased by 26% through August over the prior year. The number of programs increased by 46% and attendance to those significantly increased over 2025. While there is less library for printed material, a reduction of 10%, from 2025, computer use is up.

Both Melissa and Laura are jointly looking for Advertising Sponsors to underwrite the cost of a direct mailing so that information about Fall and Spring events, particularly "Opening Doors" can be received by everyone in town. The Town Board supports this effort.

7) OPENING DOORS: Laura Mooney stated that on November 4, there will be another Memory café event.

Opening Doors goal is to connect with people, provide a sense of belonging through information, outreach phone calls and friendship associations to alleviate insecurity and loneliness. The Opening Doors community outreach group will hold its next meeting on November 18 at 2pm

Laurette Klier has provided training sessions and teaches others how to talk to those with memory loss. Memory kits and other packages to support those who are isolated are available at the front desk.

9. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:29 p.m. by acclamation.

REMINDERS:

THE OCTOBER BOARD MEETING HAS BEEN MOVED TO NOVEMBER 10th AT 5:00 PM