



39 as Director’s Evaluation Committee; and Barbara Doyle-Wilch (chair) and Claire Tebbs as  
40 Community Engagement Committee. Marita Bathe Schine will act as liaison to the Friends, and  
41 Barbara Doyle-Wilch will continue as the liaison to Middlebury Community Television (MCMT).  
42 Barbara seconded the motion, and all voted in favor. Meg will connect with Natasha to update  
43 her on the new roles.

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#### Director’s Report

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47 Dana shared her Director’s Report in the Board’s monthly packet. The Board commended Dana  
48 and Joe McVeigh on a well received presentation at last week’s Town Meeting. The Board  
49 discussed a conversation that took place around Weybridge’s Town Meeting. Despite a small  
50 but vocal opposition, Weybridge residents voted to continue their partnership with the Ilsley  
51 Library. Dana’s open letter was read aloud at the Town Meeting in an effort to clarify monetary  
52 figures and that Weybridge had approached the Board about partnership options,  
53 coincidentally around the time Ilsley was laundering fundraising efforts for the renovation and  
54 expansion update. The Board discussed doing more targeted outreach in Weybridge to ensure  
55 residents are informed of Library programs and activities, and potentially using the  
56 Weybridge/Ilsley model to engage other small nearby communities. The Board also briefly  
57 discussed the possibility of having a Weybridge resident serve on the Board, in a voting role or  
58 in a non-voting liaison role. This would perhaps require changes to the bylaws, and the Board  
59 will revisit this conversation, possibly during their June retreat.

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#### Policy Review

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63 The Board reviewed the changes Natasha made to the “Displays in the Library,” “Responsibility  
64 for Children in the Library,” “Library Programming,” and “Use of Library Spaces” policies  
65 following the February meeting. A notable change was the removal of specific rates from the  
66 “Use of Library Spaces” policy. Instead, the rates will be posted and maintained on the Library’s  
67 website. The Board will vote to finalize these policies at the April meeting, and they will go into  
68 effect when the Library moves into the new building in late August 2026.

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70 The Board also discussed the process of naming the study rooms, both in the SpringShare  
71 booking platform and the actual physical rooms, to honor specific donors, and the community  
72 at large

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#### Renovation, Expansion and Relocation Updates

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76 The renovation and expansion project remains on schedule! Dana is feeling confident about the  
77 budget, which still includes about \$100,000 in contingency funds. A \$50,000 rebate from  
78 Efficiency Vermont is expected soon. The lighting plan has been finalized. The siding will go up  
79 on the building shortly, and interior painting will begin soon as well.

80  
81 Dana and the Board reviewed the plan for exterior signage and lighting. The Library's interior  
82 lights will go off at 6:30pm. Exterior lights will be positioned by three entrances: the Main  
83 Street entrance will go off around 8:00pm; the back the lights will go off at 8:00 or 9:00pm; and  
84 the lights by the south entrance (facing the Town Office) will stay lit throughout the night. This  
85 space will also have accessible outlets and a water spigot.

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#### Grand Opening Updates

89 Claire shared an update from the informal meeting she and Barbara hosted the previous  
90 Thursday afternoon. They will meet again on April 2. The group met for about an hour and  
91 talked through the grand opening timeline. Saturday, August 29 has been selected as the target  
92 date for the grand opening events, preceded by two days of soft launch events. The rain date  
93 will be the following Saturday.

94

95 Grand opening events will focus on the spectacle of the new building. Attendees will be eager  
96 to explore the new space, so opening remarks and ribbon cutting will be kept short (~20  
97 minutes). Possible activities include music outside on the front steps and at the garden level,  
98 self-guided building tours, and an inaugural children's story time. Light food will be served on  
99 the garden patio. Toad Hall will supply flowers. The Board discussed reaching out to local  
100 businesses to see what else may be happening in town that weekend, with the goal of making  
101 the event a town-wide celebration that supports local businesses. Dana plans to order rosettes  
102 of different colors to visually recognize people who served on the Ilsley 100 Project Committee,  
103 past and present Board members, and Friends members.

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#### Staff Appreciation Event Planning

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107 The Library will return to the Marquis Theatre for this year's staff appreciation event. The space  
108 has been booked for Wednesday May 13th from 4:00-6:00pm. The Board and the Friends  
109 typically split the cost of this event, about \$200 each. Barbara moved that the Board set aside  
110 funds to cover half of the cost of the staff appreciation festivities at the Marquis Theatre. Meg  
111 seconded the motion, and all voted in favor. Natasha, as Treasurer, will set aside the funds.

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#### Schedule Board Retreat

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115 The Board's annual retreat is an opportunity to focus on one topic in greater depth. The Board  
116 discussed what they'd like to talk about at this year's retreat, and suggestions include: thinking  
117 ahead on the strategic plan (to start in Winter 2027); community engagement; expanding the  
118 Board; the relocation process; and the grand opening. Potential dates for the retreat are May  
119 29th or June 3rd. Meg will connect with Natasha to see if either of those dates work with her.

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#### Board Comments and Unfinished Business

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123 The Board thanked David for coming.

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#### Adjourn

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127 The meeting was adjourned at 6:27pm. The next meeting will be held Monday April 13th at  
128 5:00pm in the conference room of the Middlebury Town Hall, located at 77 Main Street.

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