

AGENDA
Exeter Public Library
Long-range Plan Committee Meeting
September 17, 2026
5:15 PM
Meeting in Children's Craft Room
Zoom Link:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81820568712?pwd=QWG1VfsvDjCruCoveO8oudFgEjM6PX.1>

1. Rollcall (3 minutes)
 - a. Call to order 5:23 PM
 - b. Amanda Kelly, Julia Lanter, Chandra Boudreau, Shelby Lanter, Lauren Butts, Cathleen Toomey, Haritha Umapathy
2. Review Minutes (7 minutes)
 - a. [May Minutes](#)
 - i. Chandra motioned to approve the minutes.
 - ii. Cathleen seconded.
 - iii. Approved.
 - b. [June Minutes](#)
 - i. Julia motioned to approve the minutes.
 - ii. Amanda seconded.
 - iii. Approved.
3. Discussion of Data (40 minutes)
 - a. IMLS Overview Data

- i. Request to clarify employee number with FTE explanation from IMLS.
- ii. In the data, can we clarify residents versus non residents.
- iii. IMLS reports the operating budget differently than how the town reports the operating budget. Instead of using this data point, we will utilize what the town reported in the 2025 Town Report.
- iv. Can we state the exact number of Libby checkouts:
 1. Libby statistics- subtract $134,135 - 85,608 = 48,527$

b. Community Assessment

- i. This information is based on 2020 Census data and was compiled in 2025.
- ii. According to the 2020 Census data, $\frac{2}{3}$ of the population live in the area around the library.
- iii. That does mean that there are areas of Exeter that are less walkable.
- iv. Not every part of Exeter has access to the internet.
- v. Is there a way that we can line up the survey's age brackets with the census's brackets to compare the survey return rates with the population?
- vi. Similarly, can we line up the income brackets data with the census?
- vii. This can also be done for gender and languages spoken.

c. Raw Adult Data

- i. We have shared all of the data, plus the charts that Google generates for certain questions.
 1. For the charts can the colors be arranged in a way that associates with good and bad.
 2. To make the survey more accessible, it may work best if the graphs are in a gradient of black and white with the percentages next to them.

- ii. Any bar charts should be arranged in order from most to least with response numbers, not percentages.

d. Raw Teen Data

- i. We may have needed a follow up question for if they don't hear about library events, where would they have heard about it.
 - 1. There is some difficulty with the many towns serviced and some confusion over which library EPL is.
 - 2. It is common at the high school to post posters on the walls.
This is something we could do.
- ii. The teens present at the meeting speculated why teens answered the way they did for the "When I'm at the library..." questions that it may be because they do not know the librarians or experience social anxiety.
 - 1. Is there a way to entice teens in with a "Bring a Friend to the Library Day" with special foods (e.g. sugar-filled, donuts) and prizes.
- iii. English is also the most commonly spoken language at home, but there are some others listed.
- iv. Many questions are mergeable with the adult data.

e. Early Data Analysis

- i. After looking at the AI's analysis of the survey, the committee thinks the format is good, but we should do much more analysis ourselves.
- ii. In doing the analysis, we may find other comparisons to make.
- iii. The formatting is clear and clean though.
 - 1. It does not overly explain and keeps the reading short.
 - 2. When we are finalizing the document, we should try to keep it to an even page count.
 - 3. The template is easy to consume and understand.
- iv. It is very effective to put data charts in the text.

- v. “Pillars” is the wrong word, maybe use “Recommendations”
- vi. The final “Roadmap” should be filled out by the committee together.
- vii. The template is currently missing breakdowns of data.
- viii. It is nice that the “Conclusion” is brief.
- ix. We like that the Teen template calls out statistics at the top.
- x. We need to make sure it’s printable in black and white.
- xi. We should include charts with data from the actual questions with analysis.
- xii. If and when it is possible, we should forecast the cost of future things.
- f. Other interviews that occurred
 - i. Librarians conducted a survey and developed a 5 year sustainability plan.
 - ii. Accessibility discussions were held with a group focused on adaptive gear and with Amanda.
 - iii. BVNA will be coming to evaluate the library building to incorporate it into the town’s Facility Condition Assessment.
 - iv. Julia will write a Director’s addendum with her perspective.
 - v. We will also need a process summary for the future committee.
 - vi. In one year, we should return and write some notes to the future committee.

4. Next Meeting

- a. October 15 at 5:15 PM
- b. We can start working off a shared document as long as no more than 3 people are working on it at a time.