

TOWN OF NORTH ANDOVER
POET LAUREATE COMMITTEE



Remote Meeting

Monday, February 3, 2025
Open Session 6:00 PM

Pursuant to Section 20 of Chapter 20 of the Acts of 2021, this meeting of the North Andover Poet Laureate Committee will be conducted via remote participation. For this meeting, members of the public who wish to watch the meeting may do so via Google Meet link: meet.google.com/tov-ecwv-xwx.

1. Review Minutes from 1/27/25 meeting
2. Anne Bradstreet Poetry Contest 2025 Fifth Anniversary
 - a. **Theme:** Growing Our Community – Planting Seeds of Poetry
3. Contest Schedule
 - a. Announcement Date: Feb 1 (goal)
 - b. Contest Entries Close: April 1
 - c. Winners Announced: April 17
 - d. Contest Celebration on Common: Sat May 3 (May 10 rain date)
 - e. ACTION Followup: Karen – reserve common/bandstand with town (both dates)
4. Contest Input/Prep
 - a. Website status – Christa
 - b. ACTION: Karen – send Christa promo/writeup about poetry celebration on common
 - c. ACTION: Mark – send Christa YouTube links.
 - d. Contest Prompts – Signe & Graham
 - e. Proposal for Three Prompts: Elementary (Gr K-2, 5th and MS, HS and Adult)
 - f. Contest Announcement Email – from last year’s annc on google drive - Mark
 - i. Send by Feb 1st
5. Contest Promotion:
 - a. New yard signs
 - b. Flyer for stores – Mark
 - c. NA Poets Corner/FB announcement – Mark - when we have website ready to go
6. Contest Funding
 - a. ACTION: Karen – contact Mark DiSalvo & Melissa Rodrigues
 - i. Ask town to create a way for people to donate to PL committee.
 1. Haverhill does this through the town.
 - ii. Ask for contribution support to help us pay for signs and promotion
 1. 3 levels (\$50, \$100, \$200)
 2. Use Contest Flyer, talk about contest 5th year, Anne Bradstreet history in town, Valley of the Poets
 - iii. Idea to have a poem written by local poet to display in a restaurant?
7. Anthology book – idea to publish poems from previous years
 - a. Get funding from merchants
8. Upcoming Poetry Events
 - a. April for National Poetry Month / The First Step at Stevens Memorial Library
 - b. An International Zoom event / "Anne Read 'Round the World for Peace" / June 2025?
9. New Poet Laureate
10. New Business
11. Next Meeting

Discussion items listed are those reasonably anticipated by the Chair, which may be discussed at the meeting. Not all items listed may in fact be discussed and other items not listed may also be brought up for discussion to the extent permitted by law. Times listed are approximate and topics may be taken out of order. Those submitting information at meetings are requested to send electronic copy to the committee chair prior to or immediately following the meeting for public posting.