

NBC Membership Meeting Minutes

Wednesday November 5, 2025

Newbury Town Offices

Meeting start: 9:01 a.m. with Pledge of Allegiance

Opening remarks:

Rebecca reflected on this past year as the Chair of NBC. A commendation was made for all the active members (60+) who put in volunteer time and efforts for the various NBC endeavors, events, etc. The town of Newbury really appreciates it. A big thanks to NBC members!

Approval of October, 2025 Meeting Minutes – approved

Treasurer's Report (Rebecca presented in the absence of Kathy Bashaw):

Beginning balance September 30, 2025	\$28,527.16
Income	\$2,747.68
Expenses	\$3,886.23
Ending Balance September 30, 2025	\$27,388.61
Reserve for Scholarship Fund	\$1,625.67
1 YR Operating Reserve (cart, etc)	\$21,365.08
Cash Available as of September 30, 2025	\$4,397.86

Corresponding Secretary Report (Barbara O) Three (3) notes to members were sent: Ted Jones, Helen Wright and condolences to Charon Barton on the recent loss of her husband, Bruce. His memorial service is on November 22nd.

Membership Report (Sharon Stockel) New members of which two were introduced at this meeting. Welcome to Mike Plunkett, Gail Gotzenberger, Sherry Morin stmorin@comcast.net 603-504-2564. Sharon also noted there are NBC shirts and hats available for purchase. Please reach out to Sharon if interested.

Publicity (Susan Bedard) All publicity for the wreath sale event is complete including two advertisements in the Kearsage Shopper and Intertown Record.

Member at Large (Cate B) No membership concerns or questions presented.

Committee Reports:

Scholarship (Bonnie) 2026 scholarship award process begins in January. Bonnie noted the everlasting signature scholarship wreath is complete and raffle tickets are available at the wreath sale and after the membership meeting. **\$5/1** ticket and **\$20/5** tickets. Proceeds will help increase the NBC Scholarship Fund. A big thank you to Susan Giaccotto who decorated and donated the beautiful 16-inch wreath.

Wreath Sale (Meredith) Reminder that this is a significant fundraiser and so everyone's support is highly valuable. PLEASE continue to look at items in your holiday storage that could be donated to the holiday boutique event at the Wreath Sale on Saturday November 22nd. Items may be dropped off at NBC's storage garage at the police station through November 19th.

The Bow Making for the wreaths and the pricing for the holiday ornamental items for the wreaths was done today at the police station. All members were welcomed to participate.

A sign-up sheet was again distributed for the wreath sale preparation, clean up, slip sales, etc. Meredith noted we need two (2) door greeter(s) who count the # of customers at the door and help them with any questions on how to shop at the event. People are also needed to man the Refreshments table. Rebecca and Meredith are following up on the coffee, hot cider, cups, etc

On Wednesday November 19th at 10 a.m. at the police station, the work will be completed on the birch bark hostess containers to fill them with greens, winter berry, etc. for sale at the event. Any volunteers are welcome to help. Please bring any winterberry, decorative branches, etc. if you can.

November 21st-the Town Greening takes place. Judy Hale presented the order of activities. Lunch at Bubbas is at noon followed by the Greening activities that are overseen by various supervisors for the harbor area, courtyard, lamp post, etc. A sign-up sheet was distributed to volunteer to help. Please join us even if you did not sign up in advance.

For those volunteering at the Wreath Sale, please wear NBC shirts if you have them or festive holiday apparel. Slip writers are to arrive at the town hall by 8:30 to review instructions with Meredith.

Plant Orders (Peggy) An email was sent out to NBC members with details on cost and selection options for plants as well as guidelines for submitting plant orders. The plants are delivered in May for spring planting. They are sourced from Jolly Farmer at a very competitive price. The deadline is November 14th. High quality plant options for annuals, herbs and vegetables are available. The money raised from the project help fund the annual Newbury town plantings. Please order!

Old Business

- Nominating Committee- Marcia Keane and Susan Bedard reported that most 2026 positions have been filled. There is still an opening for Vice Chair. There was discussion about the Member At Large position and it was agreed that multiple people could be in this position. The 2026 slate will be formally voted on and approved at the December meeting.
- Harvest Dinner - was held on October 6th and was a great success. It was coordinated by Mary S and Marilyn H so a big thanks for doing so! This event may be in September for 2026 and will be led by Mary and Marilyn again.
- Trunk or Treat – this project was overseen by Cookie K on October 25th from 3 to 5 p.m. The NBC theme was sun flowers and was a great success with fun had by all that participated. Please sign up to assist with this event next year!
- Library Programs- Susan Bedard reported the 2025 programs were a great success and for 2026, the first two programs in April and June respectively will be on Bees and Salad Gardens. NBC partners with the town library every year to coordinate these presentations open to members and the general public. Library passes for VINS and the Billings Museum will be supported by NBC. After discussion a motion was made, seconded it was approved to fund two library passes for 2025. It was resolved to fund \$450 for VINS and Billings passes.
- Transfer Station Book Room - NBC's 2025 Town Project. Cindy Bates reported that the committee had procured the help of Mike Plunkett and Richard Wright to assist in renovating the book room which was a great success. A big thanks to Cindy and her committee for accomplishing this and for their days of hard work cleaning, painting, carpentry, etc. It is named the Newbury Book Nook and will have signage recognizing the efforts of the NBC.

New Business:

- Police Station Garden – Construction was required on the pathway which resulted in Rebecca and Nonie removing any plants within 18” of the walk. After completion of the work, Cindy and Nonie replanted the plants. At the request of Garry Keane and Ted Jones, the contractors added the ability to use a soaker hose and timer to keep the plantings watered regularly.
- 2026 Committee recruitment-Rebecca made available sign-up sheets for the various committees for 1st half of 2026 to encourage early sign up and commitment by NBC members.

- Legacy gift in honor of Loretta “Ginger” Mules- a donation and request by this family for a Pollinator Garden was sent to Rebecca. It will be coordinated through the town Library who was working on a similar project for 2026.

Other items:

Technology – Robin Wilkinson- is continuing in her role to coordinate and help with the NBC website. This website will be utilized in all aspects to provide the NBC calendar, agendas, meeting minutes, announcements, etc. and Rebecca S will utilize it for communication with members versus pushing emails and attachments to members. This will be a slow transition to make it easy for the membership. The URL is newburybeautification.org. Stu Hale will add to the current page on the town website.

December meeting/Holiday Meet and Greet- it was agreed that pastries and mini muffins from Newbury Deli will be ordered this year and the party will be at 8:30 am prior to the meeting start on December 3rd. Susan B and Cate B are coordinating.

Adjourn 10:02 a.m. - motion made and seconded to adjourn.

All members welcomed to attend the Bow Making Workshop at the NBC location in the back of the Police Station after the meeting.

Future Meeting dates:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Meeting / Event Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
11/22/25	8:30AM	Wreath Sale Set Up	Town Hall
	9:00AM	Wreath Sale	
11/25/25	9:00AM	NBC Board Meeting	Town Hall
12/7/25	4:00PM	Tree Lighting	Library
12/3/25	9:00AM	NBC General Meeting	Town Hall
12/16/25	9:00AM	NBC Board Meeting	Town Hall

Wreath Workshop Dates:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Meeting / Event Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
11/19/2025	10:00AM	Make & Take Hostess Container Decorating	Police Station Garage
11/20/2025	9:30AM	Signature Wreath Making by elves	Veteran’s Hall
11/21/2025	10:00AM	Setting up town office for the Wreath Sale	Town Hall
11/22/2025	8:30AM	NBC Wreath Sale Set Up & Sale	Town Hall
	9:00AM		

NBC Mission Statement:

The Newbury Beautification Committee (NBC) shall aid the town in the beautification of the community while supporting endeavors that will enrich family life and promote and strengthen community pride.