

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF THE LEMONT PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT
COOK AND DUPAGE COUNTIES, ILLINOIS
HELD AT THE LIBRARY DISTRICT EVENT SPACE
50 EAST WEND STREET, LEMONT, ILLINOIS**

August 11, 2026

1. Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call

The Board President called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The following trustees answered present: Patricia Camalliere, Laura Burt-Nicholas, Timothy Czuba, Melanie Grzesik-Duffy, Vytenis Kirvelaitis, Renee Miller, and Michaeline Skibinski. Also present were Library Director Mary Golden and Adult Services Librarian Justin Williams.

2. Public Comment

a. Presentation – Barbara Coombs and Tracy Silva Barbosa - Art Installation in Honor of Nancy Stanley

The Board viewed a virtual presentation and spoke to Barbara Lee Coombs and artist Tracy Silva Barbosa. They proposed a memorial art donation to the Library honoring Ms. Coombs's sister, Nancy Stanley.

Ms. Coombs acquainted the trustees with Ms. Stanley, an attorney advancing women's equality in the workplace. A resident of Lemont, she graduated from Bromberek Middle School, Lemont High School, Knox College, and George Washington University Law School. After graduating, she first worked with NY Congresswoman Bella Abzug, then became an appellate attorney in the General Counsel's Office of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC). Ms. Stanley developed a strategy challenging sex-discriminatory programming and employment practices at television networks before the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). Her work supported campaigns at the ABC and NBC networks, leading to greater inclusion of women in network television programming. As a partner in a women's law firm in New York City, Ms. Stanley specialized in sex-discrimination cases. Over her career, she served as an attorney in the U.S. Justice Department, Civil Rights Division, Assistant General Counsel at the FCC and Director of Dispute Resolution for the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit.

Ms. Coombs proposed installing an art glass panel in the library as a tribute to her sister's lifelong love of literature and her enduring desire to encourage young people to enrich their lives and expand their worldview through reading.

Ms. Silva Barbosa then presented her background, artistic style, creative process, and examples of her work in public and private spaces. A founder of Duende Studio and Duende Glass LLC, she has been working in glass since 1997. Her experience includes economic development positions in Massachusetts, integrative work with infrastructure and art, and serving as Executive Director of the Fall River Arts and Culture Coalition.

The goal of the proposed piece, as determined through collaboration with Ms. Coombs, was to instill wonder by incorporating silhouetted characters reading, book titles, and organic or floral elements. The artwork will cover a square area, approximately 36"x36". In the past, Ms. Silva Barbosa has worked with window manufacturers to insert art directly into the frame, between the two layers in a thermal pane. She has also hung her artwork in front of a window, somewhat like a suncatcher, but the piece is less stable and well-preserved than when incorporated into the actual window. A light box window, mounted to a wall and illuminated, lending the impression of a window, is a third option. The artwork will take eight months to a year to create and install.

The Building and Grounds Committee will discuss the concept and options. Originally, locating the piece in the children's area was discussed, but an area with higher visibility may be more desirable.

3. Approval of Minutes

Trustee Miller made a motion, seconded by Trustee Czuba to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of

July 14, 2026. A voice vote was taken. All said aye. The motion passed. A motion was then made by Trustee Miller and seconded by Trustee Burt-Nicholas to approve the minutes of the executive session of July 14, 2026. A voice vote was taken. All said aye. The motion passed.

4. Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Skibinski reported that the district had not yet received about \$100,000 in Cook County taxes. The approximately \$30,000 it did receive over the past month was mostly from DuPage. It was not uncommon for distributions to run late due to property tax appeals and refunds. In addition, Cook County generally mails tax bills in August, with payment due after thirty days; however, this year the bills will only be sent out September 1. There was a motion made by Trustee Camalliere and seconded by Trustee Czuba to approve the Treasurer's report as submitted:

Chase Bank	
Checking Account	\$ 32,072.50
Savings Account	106.77
Illinois Funds	
Money Market e-pay	125,792.77
Illinois National Bank	
e-Pay	1,000.00
Lemont Bank & Trust	
Money Market	14,299.76
PMA	
Operating Account	1,168,726.18
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A roll call was taken. Trustees Camalliere, Burt-Nicholas, Czuba, Grzesik-Duffy, Kirvelaitis, Miller, and Skibinski voted aye. There were no nays. The motion passed.

5. Payment of Bills

A motion made by Trustee Skibinski and seconded by Trustee Grzesik-Duffy to approve payment of total accounts payable, ACH payments, and payroll in the amount of \$ 168,455.28. A roll call was taken. Trustees Camalliere, Burt-Nicholas, Czuba, Grzesik-Duffy, Kirvelaitis, Miller, and Skibinski voted aye. There were no nays. The motion passed.

6. Reports

a. Board President

No report.

b. Library Director

Library Director Golden highlighted her written report and made some additions:

- ◆ The library was preparing for its annual audit. Auditors from Lauterbach & Amen are scheduled to be on-site on September 30.
- ◆ Hinsdale Nurseries, Inc. was available to visit the property with landscaping recommendations on August 18, at 9:30, 10:30 and 11:30 a.m. or all day on August 20.
- ◆ The inaugural PinCon conference took place on August 7. Over 200 staff from the Pinnacle Library Cooperative member libraries gathered at the Joliet Renaissance Center to participate in professional development, share best practices, and network. Former American Library Association (ALA) president Sam Helmick was the keynote speaker.
- ◆ The library welcomed two new staff members, Youth Services Manager Carla Dinnocenzo and Jennifer Van Vegten, Adult Services Librarian for Programming and Partnerships.
- ◆ This year, the library received an Illinois Public Library Per Capita and Equalization Grant in the amount of \$39,409.40.

- ◆ The Illinois Public Library Annual Report (IPLAR) was almost complete.
- ◆ The terms of trustees Laura Burt-Nicholas, Tim Czuba, Melanie Grzesik-Duffy, and Vytenis Kirvelaitis were expiring. Election packets for the Spring 2027 Consolidated Election were now available. Candidates may begin collecting signatures on August 25, and the first day to submit petitions is November 16. Petitions are filed at the Library with Director Golden or approved library staff members. A list of election officers was forthcoming.
- ◆ The Fall 2026 Newsletter has been released.

7. Committee Reports

a. Technology

ALLCOMM Systems, Inc. submitted a quote for a new Exacq 12TB NVR (network video recorder) to record, store, and manage the digital security video footage from its security cameras. Other than installation of the NVR, the \$7,900 price tag included installation of a new 16-channel encoder for the analog cameras, programming the system, and providing training. The quote was higher than previously approved by the Board, but the Technology Committee recommended purchasing the equipment because it provided significantly greater capacity. Trustee Skibinski took exception to a contract provision which required up-front payment. She suggested the cost be divided in half, with the second payment due after installation. Director Golden will attempt to negotiate a more favorable payment plan. Trustee Miller made a motion, seconded by Trustee Skibinski to approve the purchase of the devices in the amount of \$ 7,900. A roll call was taken. Trustees Camalliere, Burt-Nicholas, Czuba, Grzesik-Duffy, Kirvelaitis, Miller, and Skibinski voted aye. There were no nays. The motion passed.

b. Policy and Personnel

The committee met on August 4 to discuss the annual director's performance evaluation, which was already a half-year overdue. Chair Camalliere asked the trustees to complete their evaluations before the end of August, so the committee could compile their responses and prepare to consider feedback in September. The Director will provide salary history information and a list of directors' compensation from local, benchmark libraries.

c. Finance

The committee met on August 3 to review estimates of revenues and expenditures in the Building and Appropriation Ordinance which had to be approved during the regular Board meeting in September. From the list of upcoming due dates for annual expenditures prepared by the Director, the committee concluded that the Library was in sound financial condition until the next tax distribution from Cook County, provided it was received before the end of the calendar year.

d. Planning and Goals

The committee did not meet last month.

e. Building and Grounds

Sebert Landscaping will be removing dead plants before a new planting the Library hoped to undertake in the early fall. Chris Bryla, co-owner of Sun and Shade Garden Center of Lemont, studied the current landscaping and shared her ideas for improving it, including restoring balance to the garden, removing plants that had overwhelmed certain areas, relocating some thriving plants, and recommending low-maintenance, aesthetically pleasing substitute plantings.

8. New Business

a. Review Tentative Budget & Appropriation Ordinance

The President asked the Board to review the tentative Budget and Appropriation Ordinance FY27-02 included in the board packet. A public hearing on the ordinance will be held before the next Board meeting in September and, subsequently, there would be a motion to adopt it during the regular session.

b. Secretary Audit and Certification of Minutes

Board Secretary Renee Miller's audit and the certification of meeting minutes was approved during the July meeting.

c. Keepataw Days Sponsorship

The Library will sponsor Lemont's Labor Day weekend Keepataw Day Parade in the amount of \$500.

d. Approve Replacement of NVR for Security Camera System

The purchase was approved earlier under 7. *Committee Reports, a. Technology.*

e. Landscape Replacement Recommendation and Presentation

Chris Bryla of Sun and Shade Garden Center presented her recommendations for the Library's landscaping in a PowerPoint presentation under 7. *Committee Reports, e. Building and Grounds.*

f. Material Reconsideration Request

In mid-July, a patron suggested relocating a graphic novel, "Spinning" by Tillie Walden, from the Young Adult (YA) to the Adult section. The book was removed from the shelves until the board was able to evaluate it. The patron felt that the volume was not age-appropriate due to the use of profanity and the topic of gender identity. After the trustees examined and discussed the book, Trustee Burt-Nicholas made a motion, seconded by Trustee Grzesik-Duffy, to return "Spinning" to the YA shelves. A roll call was taken. Trustees Camalliere, Burt-Nicholas, Czuba, Grzesik-Duffy, and Skibinski voted aye. Trustees Kirvelaitis and Miller abstained. There were no nays. The motion passed.

9. Old Business

a. Art Installation in Honor of Nancy Stanley

The trustees will discuss the project presented under 2. *Public Comment, a.* and contact Ms. Coombs and Ms. Silva Barbosa in the next 30-60 days.

10. Executive Session

There was no need to move into executive session.

11. Open Session

Policy and Personnel Chair Camalliere added to her committee report. The Director will also be completing a self-evaluation and submitting it to the Board the week of August 17. Trustee Camalliere wondered whether it would be useful to circulate the bottom portion of the director's evaluation sheet, entitled "Staff Relations," amongst staff members for comments about their department managers. Although the trustees agreed on the value of employee feedback in matters that concerned their work environment, technical assistance, and patron needs, the consensus was that reviewing the performance of managers is the Director's responsibility. The Committee could, however, consider distributing a survey soliciting general suggestions and observations.

12. Correspondence

Staff members received a slew of compliments over the past month: Erik Drafke at Patron Services; Youth Services Program Specialist Elise Bryla for the Summer Learning Challenge Wrap-Up Party; Joan Stoiber in the Children's Department; and Adult Services Manager Justin Williams and the whole PinOps team for their work on PinCon. Departing Adult Services Librarian Maureen Fako also expressed her gratitude for the farewell party and gift on her last day at the Library.

13. Adjournment

Trustee Miller made a motion, seconded by Trustee Skibinski, to adjourn the meeting at 8:36 p.m. A voice vote was taken. All said aye. The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Ramona Stephens-Žemaitis
Recording Secretary