

FAIRVIEW HEIGHTS PUBLIC LIBRARY

Board of Trustees Regular Meeting

Minutes of January 15, 2026

I. OPENING OF MEETING

A. Meeting called to order @ 7:00 p.m. by President Deborah Smith.

B. **Present:** Carolyn Clark, Laurinda Hardy, Rochelle Hobson, Patti Hopkins, Bill Poletti, Deborah Smith, Linda Spencer, Jill Pifer, *Director*

Absent: Donna Bullock, Karie Sheils

C. Additions to Agenda

- Update on drywall repair at the library due to June 2025 water heater incident. Public Works is handling the repair.
- Black History Month Program (K. Ajanaku) – February 7, 2026 @2:00 p.m. at the library

II. CONSENT AGENDA

A. **Approval of November 20, 2025 Library Board Meeting Minutes**

Motion #1 (Carolyn Clark/Laurinda Hardy) Approve minutes of the November 20, 2025 library board meeting. **Motion Carried (Consensus)**

B. **Library Director's Report (Written Report)**

Highlights of Successful Events

- 2 city sponsored events : Tree Lighting and Santa Parade at the mall
- City Snowglobe Blowup in library lobby
- Camp Messy – gingerbread making event
- Nerf Battle
- New Year's Eve Day Party

III. APPROVAL OF ALL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, REPORTS AND BILL LIST

Motion #2 (Rochelle Hobson/Carolyn Clark) Approve all November/December 2025 financial statements, reports and bill lists.

Roll Call Vote: Carolyn Clark yes; Laurinda Hardy yes; Rochelle Hobson yes; Pattie Hopkins yes; Bill Poletti yes; Deborah Smith yes; Linda Spencer yes. **Motion Carried**

IV. COMMUNICATION AND CORRESPONDENCE

Kym Nystrom (Appreciation on behalf of her father, Ron)

V. CITIZENS COMMENTS

Linda Spencer – A brief tribute in honor of Dr. King.

VI. ILLINOIS HEARTLAND LIBRARY SYSTEM REPORT

New process for circulation desk in late January/February 2026 relating to receipt tapes.

VII. STANDING COMMITTEES

A. **Finance: Approve 1/6/26 minutes**

No quorum to approve minutes.

B. **Personnel: Approve 12/15/25 minutes.**

Minutes were approved by the committee.

C. **Policy: (None)**

VIII. SPECIAL COMMITTEES (None)

IX. BUSINESS

- A. Discussion and vote on revised collection development policy reviewed by the Policy committee.

A brief discussion ensued on the sensitivity to requests potentially coming forth from non-residents. Appendix D Request for Reconsideration of Library Resource was examined.

Motion #3 (Patti Hopkins/Carolyn Clark) Approve the Resource Selection and Development Policy as presented. **Motion Carried 6 yes 1 no**

Roll Call Vote: Carolyn Clark yes; Laurinda Hardy yes; Rochelle Hobson yes; Pattie Hopkins yes; Bill Poletti no; Deborah Smith yes; Linda Spencer yes.

- B. Discussion and vote on removing the following policies: 1) Reconsideration of Material 2) Gifts to the library 3) Materials Selection 4) Weeding.

Motion #4 (Bill Poletti/Deborah Smith) Approve removal of the following policies:

1) Reconsideration of Material 2) Gifts to the library 3) Materials Selection 4) Weeding.

Motion Carried

- C. Discussion and vote on new programming policy reviewed by the Policy Committee.

Motion #5 (Carolyn Clark/Patti Hopkins) Approve new programming policy.

Motion Carried

- D. Discussion and vote on revised staff evaluation form reviewed by the Personnel Committee.

Document examined with commendation offered to Rochelle Hobson for structure of the form.

Motion #6 (Bill Poletti/Linda Spencer) Approve revised staff evaluation form.

Motion Carried

- E. Discussion and vote on FY 26/27 budget reviewed by the Finance Committee.

A brief discussion ensued with concern on the delay of the finance committee minutes impacting the review of the FY 26/27 budget. The outcome of the discussion rested on the morals that the two entities were independent of each other.

Discussion ensued on minor changes to budget since last presented October 2025.

Library Director noted a 4.1% increase over FY 25/26 budget

TOTAL EXPENSES 2025-206 FY = \$ 658,354.00

TOTAL EXPENSES 2026 – 2027 FY = \$ 685,275.00

Motion #7 (Bill Poletti Rochelle Hobson) Approve draft of the FY 26/27 budget in the amount of \$ 685,275.00. **Motion Carried**

Roll Call Vote: Carolyn Clark yes; Laurinda Hardy yes; Rochelle Hobson yes; Pattie Hopkins yes; Bill Poletti yes; Deborah Smith yes; Linda Spencer yes.

7 Yes; 0 No.

F. Discussion and vote on additional funds needed for continued work with Louer Planning Facility.

Discussion on the carpeting and circulation desk for the interior design plan initiated in 2024 needing additional funds from the initial amount approved, \$8,500

Discussion on exploring grant possibilities for building grant from the city.

Motion # 8 (Rochelle Hobson/Carolyn Clark) Approve an additional \$ 6,500.00 from library funds that are needed to complete the carpeting and circulation project with Louer Planning Facility. **Motion Carried**

Roll Call Vote: Carolyn Clark yes; Laurinda Hardy yes; Rochelle Hobson yes;

Pattie Hopkins yes; Bill Poletti yes; Deborah Smith yes; Linda Spencer yes.

7 Yes; 0 No.

X. CLOSED SESSION

XI. ADJOURNMENT 7:50 p.m. Consensus

Respectfully submitted by,

Linda Spencer, Secretary