

**Columbus Public Library
Library Board Meeting
Tuesday, August 19, 2025
Phyllis Luchsinger Callahan Meeting Room**

Call to Order: Pete Kaland called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

Present: Pete Kaland, Amanda Wakeman, Sue Salter, Jim Schieble, Trina Reid, Deb Haeffner, Nora Vieau, Merry Anderson
Absent: Shirley Berkley, Dana Pike

Roll Call, Introduction of Visitors Public Input:

Approval of the Agenda for July 15, 2025: Jim moved and Sue seconded a motion to approve the Agenda. Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes June 17, 2025: Jim moved and Deb seconded a motion to approve the June Minutes. Motion carried.

Reports

Financial Secretary's Report: CDAR 1 renews 8/28 at 4.35 %. SCLS account continues to increase, up \$3,109.00 from previous month. Nora moved and Deb seconded a motion to approve the Report. Motion carried.

Bills: Bills of \$6,197.72 submitted. Deb moved and Nora seconded a motion to approve the bills. Motion carried.

Budget Comparison: Budget on track with 66.22 % of budget spent.

Library Director's Report:

Summer Library Program concluded with 617 participants. August 11, 350 people celebrated end of summer with meal sponsored by Columbus Kiwanis and Kwik Trip. Kids swam free and Mullins Short Stop donated ice cream treats. Kiwanis and Friends of the Library handled clean-up duties.

CPL participated in National Night Out partnering with DPW to help children decorate hardhats and safety vests and add colorful handprints to a snowplow. Library staff attending included Amanda, Helen, Catherine, Kristen, Deb and Pat.

Youth Services

Special guests included:

Fire Chief Scott Hazeltine and Police Chief Dennis Weiner
Recreation Director Amy Jo Meyers
Columbus Utilities Lineman Jake Boness
Columbus Police Officer Julia Knoll
Library Board Members Jim Schieble and Dana Pike
City Administrator Matt Amundson

Final summer programs included:
The Wonders of Physics from UW-Madison
J&R Aquatic Rescue
Musician Angela Puerta

Adult Services

July 17-Author Dean Robbins
July 24-Cookbook Club
Online Lotus Lantern Workshop in collaboration with the Korean Spirit and Culture Promotion Project attracted capacity 20 participants.
August 7-After Hours Book Club met at the 161 Building with 28 participants
September 18-New Art from the Heart Art Club for kids

Looking Ahead

September-Library card sign-up month with raffles for both new and current patrons who update their information
September 9-Author Ruth Coniff discussing her book *Milked: How an American Crisis Brought Together Midwestern Dairy Farmers and Mexican Workers*
September 18-Classical guitarist David Rogers
Books and Beer with Valerie Biel meets monthly in the Annex

Meetings:

July 18/September 24-Columbia County meeting focusing on near-completion of the county strategic plan. Amanda will help present the county library budget to the Finance Committee on September 24.

Facilities

DPW removed the west side window and is rebuilding in-house.
Quotes being collected for cleaning and sealing grout in bathrooms.

Library Stats

Visits and Items Borrowed up by 4.9% and 5.5% respectively; 21% of items borrowed by "other Columbia County" patrons (Columbus and Fall River account for 63% of items borrowed).

Library Director's Goals: As noted above Director attended National Night Out with DPW and conclusion of Summer Reading Program with the Columbus Recreation Dept. Staff meeting scheduled for September 9 to discuss teamwork and communication styles. Creating an adult crochet club based on patron feedback.

President's Report: None

Literacy Council Report: None

Friends of the Library: Ad hoc committee reviewing bylaws.

Correspondence: None

Committee Reports:

Ad hoc committee on development met to identify names of local people potentially interested in attending an information and input meeting to discuss library expansion. Discussed putting a more formal development plan together based on citizen input.

Trustee Training: None

Unfinished Business:

Budget Process moved to September CPL board meeting pending receipt of information from City. The County Library Board will be requesting a budget increase from the County.

New Business:

Library User Policy: Board reviewed and commented. Amanda will present final version for approval at September meeting

Library Social Media Policy: CPL does not have its own social media policy relative to the City. Board discussed options including policies from other libraries. CPL is under state library law and funded by both City and County. Board will continue to work on developing a policy. Amanda will gather examples from other libraries. Sue moved and Jim seconded a motion to utilize further research and input to develop a CPL social media policy. Motion carried.

Adjourn: Jim moved and Deb seconded a motion to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 6:02 p.m.

Next scheduled board meeting—September 16, 2025, at 5:00 p.m. in the Library.

Respectfully submitted,
Merry Anderson, Secretary