

**Columbus Public Library
Library Board Meeting
Tuesday, February 17, 2026
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, Deb Haeffner, Shirley Berkley, Sue Salter, Trina Reid, Dana Pike, Merry Anderson

Absent: Nora Vieau, Jim Schieble

Roll Call, Introduction of Visitors Public Input:

Approval of the Agenda: Dana moved and Shirley seconded a motion to approve the Agenda. Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes January 20, 2026: Shirley moved and Deb seconded a motion to approve the January Minutes. Motion carried.

Reports

Financial Secretary's Report: CDAR 2 renews 4/16/2026 at 4.29 %, down .06%. Merry moved and Sue seconded a motion to approve the Report. Motion carried.

Bills: Bills of \$29,436.64 submitted which include one-time \$22,655.00 SCLS ILS/Tech Fees for 2026. Deb moved and Dana seconded a motion to approve the bills. Motion carried.

Budget Comparison: No report available.

Library Director's Report:

Winter Library Program concluded with 295 participants surpassing last year. CPL remained open on January 23 despite other closures due to cold. CPL is a designated warming shelter for Dodge and Columbia Counties and so remained open during advertised hours. We welcomed several families who spent extended time seeking a warm place.

Community Outreach:

Helen will participate in Literacy night at Columbus Elementary School on March 4.

Youth Services:

Family Pizza & Board Game Night cancelled in January due to weather.

Teen Chocolate Candy Sushi extremely popular and delicious.

Art from the Heart created pipe cleaner flowers for residents of Home Again Assisted Living.

Adult Services:

Great turnout at all book clubs in January.

Art Craft Night and Books & Yarn both well attended
Grievance Journaling on February 12 allowed participants to air grievances with hilarious prompts.
Library teamed up with Community Center in Annex for Galentine's [Note. This spelling is correct.] event on February 13.

Clubs and Programs:

2/19-Third Thursday Book Club
2/20-Family Pizza & Board Game Night
2/24-Murder Mystery in the Annex at a Northwoods Cabin
2/25-Adult Craft Night: Glass Tumblers
2/26-Cookbook Club and Tasting
3/3-Hooked on Books and Yarn
3/5-Library After Hours Book Club: *Say You'll Remember Me*
3/12-Gaelic Harp player Jeff Pockat
3/16-Romantasy Book Club: *Silver Elite*

Meetings:

Amanda is serving as county representative on the Administrative Council for SCLS.
March 6-County Library Board and Directors Meeting in Pardeeville.

Facilities:

Both buildings did well during January cold snap. Annex temp did get down to 58 degrees but no freezing issues.

Library Director's Goals:

Coordinated with Community Center on Galentine Day event.
Attended City of Columbus Supervisors Round Table to discuss leadership skills demonstrated by Abraham Lincoln and how to utilize in the workplace.

President's Report: None

Literacy Council Report: Received \$300 grant from Columbus United Way. Positive interview with coordinator candidate.

Friends of the Library: Passed new Bylaws and changed meeting dates.

Correspondence: None

Committee Reports:

Personnel Committee: Board discussed evaluation process and instrument. Personnel Committee with revise language to clarify the process. Board will vote on Director Evaluation Process in March.

Policy Committee-City of Columbus Merit Pay Policy: Board reviewed and discussed. Trina explained and answered questions.

Unfinished Business:

Update Bylaws of the Columbus Public Library: Board reviewed. Merry moved and Deb seconded a motion to approve Bylaws. Motion carried.

Gift from the Carnegie Corporation: Board discussed use of funds. Amanda will get quote on self-checkout system.

New Business:

2025 Wisconsin Public Library Annual Report: Board reviewed and approved adding comment acknowledging CPL appreciation for SCLS services. Merry moved and Dana seconded a motion to approve the Annual Report. Motion carried.

Approve hiring for Substitute Library Position: Two candidates, Angelique Pasillas and Amy Noe, will job share. Hours will vary. Shirley moved and Dana seconded a motion to approve this hire. Motion carried.

Summer Teen Internship Program: Intern will receive \$500 upon completion of internship. Merry moved and Deb seconded a motion to approve Summer Teen Internship Program. Motion carried.

Adjourn: Dana moved and Deb seconded a motion to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 5:15p.m.

Next scheduled board meeting – March 17, 2026 at 5:00 p.m. in the Library.

Respectfully submitted,
Merry Anderson, Secretary