

**Columbus Public Library
Library Board Meeting
Tuesday, September 16, 2025
Phyllis Luchsinger Callahan Meeting Room**

Call to Order: Nora Vieau called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

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

Absent: Pete Kaland

Roll Call, Introduction of Visitors Public Input:

Approval of the Agenda for September 16, 2025: Jim moved and Deb seconded a motion to approve the Agenda. Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes August 2025: Dana moved and Shirley seconded a motion to approve the June Minutes. Motion carried.

Reports

Financial Secretary's Report: CDAR 2 renews 10/16/25 at 4.35 %, same as previous month. SCLS account continues to increase, up \$11,470.05.00 from previous month. Deb moved and Sue seconded a motion to approve the Report. Motion carried.

Bills: Bills of \$3,079.36 submitted. Jim moved and Shirley seconded a motion to approve the bills. Motion carried.

Budget Comparison: Budget on track with 70.50 % of budget spent.

Library Director's Report:

To encourage September Library Card Sign-up Month, we offered raffle prizes donated by Farmers & Merchants Bank, Author Valerie Biel and Royal Guernsey Creamery. The Coffee Garage provided vouchers for a free cookie to anyone signing up for a new card. Existing patrons who updated their information also received a raffle ticket. The goal was to get as many accounts with email addresses as possible to cut down on the cost of mailing overdue letters.

Outreach

Helen and Deb along with Friends of the Library attended open house at Columbus Elementary School.

9/10-Helen will do storytime at Sadie's Bee Orchard in Fall River

Youth Services

Early morning learning programs resumed in September. Each week features storytimes at the Library and At Home Again or Music & Motion.

Chess Club continues every other week at the Library with Louie Pace, our instructor, doing a chess talk about strategy and techniques.

The Homeschool Program resumed September 8 and meets weekly on Mondays.

Adult Services

August 28-Books & Beer welcomed Kevin Kluesner with 18 attendees.

Hooked on Books and Yarn, a crochet club, had its first meeting with 13 attendees.

Adult Craft Night continues to meet every month.

Larry Scheckel's presentation on "Amish in Wisconsin" was well-attended.

Ruth Coniff's presentation on "Milked" about Wisconsin's dairy farms and immigrants had a small group of readers.

After Hours Book Club, Romantasy Book Club, and 3rd Thursday Book Club all continue with great numbers and consistent attendees.

Looking Ahead

September 18-Classical guitar performance with David Rogers

September 18-New Art from the Heart Club for kids; suggested by a 6th grade patron

October 9-Cookbook Club: Autumn Harvest

October 17-Writing Mysteries in tandem with Peggy Joque and Mary Joy Johnson

October 23-Cornerstone at Columbus Pavilion

Meetings:

September 19-Columbia County Library Board and Directors meeting in Rio.

September 24-Amanda will present county library budget to the finance committee.

Facilities

September 19-Reliable Floorcare from Sun Prairie will deep clean and seal bathroom grout. Work will be time so a bathroom is always available.

There is water in the Annex basement around the furnace and water heater. Wright Plumbing confirmed it is not from the water heater. TAS thinks it might be from the air conditioner and may be from cracks in the attic drain. Monitoring continues.

Library Stats

Visits and Items Borrowed continue to be up by 3.6% and 3.2% respectively.

Library Director's Goals: CPL received a grant from the Columbus Area Endowment toward the upgrade of the downstairs circulation desk counters. All staff attended a meeting with other city staff on September 3. CPL continues to add new programs based on feedback from patrons.

President's Report: None

Literacy Council Report: None

Friends of the Library: FOL will again participate in annual wine walk. Book sale is featuring non-book sale items. FOL also will participate in National Friends of the Library Week October 19-25 with a bake sale. Work on updating bylaws continues.

Correspondence: Received award letter from Columbus Area Endowment for above-

noted counter upgrade.

Committee Reports:

Ad hoc committee on development did not meet.

Trustee Training: None

Unfinished Business:

Library User Policy-Sue moved and Dana seconded a motion to approve the revised policy as presented. Motion carried.

2026 Library Budget: Continuing to incorporate City, Dodge and Columbia County information.

Library Social Media Policy: Board proposed an ad hoc committee to review and make recommendations.

New Business:

City Personnel Handbook: Amanda shared with Board and noted the CPL Addendum.

An ad hoc committee was suggested to review.

Sue Mathwich retirement: Sue will retire October 16. Discussed City recognition at a Council meeting. Jim moved and Merry seconded a motion to approve \$200 for a retirement gift. Motion carried.

Staff Promotion: Jim moved and Dana seconded a motion to promote Kristen to Library Assistant I. Motion carried.

Adjourn: Jim moved and Dana seconded a motion to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 6:01p.m.

Next scheduled board meeting—October 21, 2025, at 5:00 p.m. in the Library.

Respectfully submitted,
Merry Anderson, Secretary