

KIRKWOOD PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MINUTES
June 17, 2026
Meeting Room, Kirkwood Public Library, 140 E Jefferson

Board Attendance: Eads, Missey, Pitt Kaplan, Sandbothe Sylvia, Ward, Wolshock
Board Absent: McKee, Taylor, Talir
Staff Attendance: Christa Van Herreweghe, Lisa Henry, Lynne Haynes
Guests: Deb Lavender, City Council Liaison

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by Pitt Kaplan at 5:02 pm.

Business from the audience: Lavender was introduced as new liaison.

Minutes Ward voted to approve the minutes of May 20, Eads seconded and the vote to approve was passed by the trustees in attendance.

Staff Endowment Update: Haynes reported on the Library becoming “dementia-friendly” as she was able to grow the Reading2Connect titles, the Reminisce kits, and the Memory Café programs thanks to the staff endowment grant. Upcoming highlights of the program include Reader’s Advisory for patrons with memory loss, new reminisce kits and expanding the Memory Cafes to other MLC libraries.

Librarian’s Report – Van Herreweghe reported:

State: We had a grant monitoring visit from the state library.

MLC/MEC: The MLC agreed to extend library card expiration dates to 5 years.

City of Kirkwood – I went to the employee meet and greet for the new city manager

KPL - I met with Holly Talir, our newly appointed board member who was unable to be here tonight but she will be here in July. Our new solar charging station benches were installed (and got USED immediately). Summer Reading programs are doing well, included a few Saturday performances in honor of the Library’s centennial.

Meetings – Van Herreweghe went to Poplar Bluff for the Missouri Public Library Directors meeting and attended the MOREnet council meeting and found out we are getting some new databases paid for by the state - a couple of hobby and crafts + one about entrepreneurship.

Trustees’ Reports – Eads reported her kids are Reading Buddies this year.

President's Report – Pitt Kaplan reported she will give the board questions about books next month. New members are invited to attend other committee meetings at least once to learn more about each committee. Excited to be new president and welcomes questions.

Committee Reports –

Finance: Eads reported as of today the Library has made our revenue budget for the fiscal year (101%) and the expenses are at about 95% spent, with a couple of weeks left. The Library only dipped into about 26% of the reserve budget, so will have a healthy reserve for next year. There are still have the two June payrolls, the annual building insurance and some book invoices left to pay but the Library will also be receiving a good reimbursement from the MLC. Next month staff will have the finalized budget, plus updates for next year's reserve budget and then they will start getting ready for the audit.

Building and Grounds: Wolshock reported the Library continues to battle the centipede infestation on the lower level - the exterminator is coming weekly and the landscaper is looking at some concrete work outside the Taylor door, their point of entry.

The second half of the elevator repair work was completed this week and the elevator is running much better now that it is not leaking oil.

If you make it to the tour of the building before the board meeting you can update the others on that.

Personnel: None.

Development: Ward reported the goal for this year's appeal was \$41,125, as of last week it was \$6,000 short and then on Friday the Library received a \$6,000 donation. Half of the new pavers have been engraved, hoping they will finish up this week.

The endowment fund has made \$314,338 this year and is currently at \$2,350,367. We have \$27,283 remaining in the endowment grant for the rest of the calendar year.

Board Operations: None.

Unfinished Business: None

New Business –

Lodge ILL policy update – Van Herreweghe reviewed the policy update to restrict ILL to Kirkwood residents only.

August Meeting – Eads made a motion to cancel the meeting in August, Ward seconded and the vote to approve was unanimous by the trustees in attendance.

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Adjourn: Eads made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:55 pm, Wolshock seconded and the vote to adjourn was unanimous by the trustees in attendance.

The next regular board meeting will be on Wednesday, July 15 at **5:00** pm.

Respectfully submitted by Lisa Henry, Director of Operations