

KIRKWOOD PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MINUTES
July 15, 2026
Meeting Room, Kirkwood Public Library, 140 E Jefferson

Board Attendance: Eads, McKee, Missey, Pitt Kaplan, Sandbothe Sylvia, Talir, Taylor

Board Absent: Wolshock, Ward

Staff Attendance: Christa Van Herreweghe, Lisa Henry

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:

Minutes Eads voted to approve the minutes of June 17, Sandbothe Sylvia seconded, McKee abstained and the vote to approve was passed by the trustees in attendance.

Lavender reported the fireworks were a big success.

Librarian's Report – Van Herreweghe reported:

State: The governor vetoed \$1.3 million from the Athletes and Entertainers tax, specifically for the Humanities Council, and it is not clear what that means for libraries. State aid was cut 50%.

MLC/MEC: The MLC does not meet in the summer. The cataloging utility that some libraries use will have to be purchased by the entire MEC, increasing our costs.

City of Kirkwood – Everyone is undoubtedly aware of the issues ongoing at the city.

KPL – The first inquiry from another library came in about the new RFID tags. The Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet archives visited the Library as part of their staff development day.

Meetings – Van Herreweghe met with the president of the Kirkwood Historical Society.

Trustees' Reports – Pitt Kaplan reported the large format printer is amazing, she had a blown up picture done of her son for only \$4. Eads reported her kids are volunteering here and loving it.

President's Report – Pitt Kaplan asked trustees what summer read are they enjoying. She also discussed board goals, such as talking up the Library in public.

Committee Reports –

Finance: Eads reported the Library finished the fiscal year with 101% of the operations revenue budget received and 101% of the operations expense budget spent. The Library only dipped into 37% of the reserve budget and 87% of the grants budget (rolls over year to year).

The last couple of pages of the board packet are the revised reserves plan and capital plan for the new fiscal year. We are starting the year off with 4 million in the bank, which will cover half of this year's operations plus 2.6 million in reserves for capital projects, the final debt service payment and any emergencies or unforeseen expenses.

We have started the audit process and Keith will want to have a quick meeting with the finance committee in the fall.

Building and Grounds: Henry reported that by accepting Dormakaba's bid last week the Library was able to save over \$7,000 before the manufacturer's price increase on the 13th. The installation will be end of October – early November and will take three days. During that time we will use the side door on the Taylor side. Dormakaba has been very good to work with over the years, they have been helping keep the current doors working, and they are quick to respond when we need anything. They won't put the doors in and disappear if there are any issues. The windows will be washed on Friday, inside and out and staff are keeping the book caboose fully stocked at the pool.

Personnel: None.

Development: None.

Board Operations: None.

Unfinished Business:

Approve ILL policy update – Van Herreweghe reviewed the policy update to restrict ILL to Kirkwood residents only. Eads made a motion to approve the policy update, McKee seconded and the motion to approve was unanimous by the trustees in attendance.

New Business –

Approve Code of Ethics – Taylor made a motion to approve the code of ethics, Sylvia Sandbothe seconded and the vote to approve was unanimous by the trustees in attendance.

Lodge 2027 Holidays – Van Herreweghe reviewed the Holiday/Closed Schedule for 2027, which would add the day after Thanksgiving as a paid holiday and puts KPL in line with the other MLC libraries for number of paid holidays.

Approve Door Replacement: Taylor made a motion to approve the Dormakaba proposal to replace the front doors (exterior and interior), Eads seconded and the vote to approve was unanimous by the trustees in attendance.

Adjourn: Eads made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:40 pm, Talir seconded and the vote to adjourn was unanimous by the trustees in attendance.

The next regular board meeting will be on Wednesday, September 16th at **5:00** pm.

Respectfully submitted by Lisa Henry, Director of Operations