

Drake Public Library Board of Trustees
Wednesday, February 12, 2025, 5PM via Zoom
Regular Board Meeting Minutes

Call to Order: Board President, Janell Armstrong called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

Board Members Present: Michelle Moore, Nicole Cox, Janell Armstrong, Kris Hoffman, David Farrell, Mike Cockrum, Kathy Cridlebaugh and Dennis Beeson

Board Members Absent: Shelly Baldwin

Library Staff Present: Library Director JeNel Barth

City Staff Present: City Council Member Anna Kruzic

Agenda Approval: Approved as adjusted.

Minutes Approval: The Regular Board Meeting minutes for January 8, 2025, were approved as presented.

Visitors/Public Comment: None

Approval of Bills: Nicole Cox moved to approve the payment of bills, second Mike Cockrum, approved by all.

Director's Report: Library Director JeNel Barth that progress is being made on scheduling activities for the Summer Reading Program, Ashley Klein-Paisley from Kinetic Edge will be presenting a special adult program on Tuesday, February 18th at 6:30pm. The program will be an arthritis workshop. Adult programs are being researched including one that celebrates Jane Austen's 250th birthday.

Report from the City: Anna Kruzic reported that the City Council will be reviewing and voting on the FY26 Budget on Monday, February 17th.

Report from Friends of DPL: Next fundraiser will be Pie Day on March 14th. The Friends are looking for pie baker. Imagination Library continues to add children as others graduate.

Report for the Drake Public Library Foundation: The Foundation has increased its annual pledge to the library to assist in budgeting shortfalls due to recent legislative changes. A grant has been applied for to replace the railings on the front steps with a safer option.

Reports from Standing Committees (Executive, Budget and Finance, Governance, Building, Public Relations, Personnel):

Budget and Finance: The committee met several times with Jason Fraser to review the budget for FY26 and address the budget shortfall. Kris Hoffman implored all board members and all library supporters to contact legislators about HF 196 to re-establish the special library levy for public libraries which was eliminated in 2023.

Building: A solar company is doing a review of the library to determine if solar energy would be an option to assist in lowering energy costs.

Old Business: None

New Business:

Policy Review: Emergency Closing Policy: Michelle Moore moved to approve the updated policy, second Nicole Cox, approved by all.

FY26 Budget: Kris Hoffman moved to approve FY26 Budget as presented, second David Farrell, approved by all.

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Agenda Items for Future Meetings: None

Upcoming Meeting: Regular Board Meeting Tuesday, March 11, 2025, at 5 p.m. Note the updated date to accommodate board members attending the annual PACT banquet.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned by President Janell Armstrong.