Bloomington Public Library
Books are just the beginning.

MINUTES
LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES - REGULAR SESSION
TUESDAY, MARCH 18, 2025, 5:30 PM

The Library Board of Trustees convened in regular session at 5:30 PM, March 18, 2025. President Catrina Parker called the meeting to order.

Roll Call

Attendee Name	Title	Status
Alok Hoonka	Board Member	Present
Sharon Zeck	Trustee	Present
Georgene Chissell	Trustee	Present; arrived at 5:45PM
Alicia Henry	Trustee	Present
Dianne Hollister	Trustee	Present
Catrina Parker	President	Present
Ashlee Sang	Board Member	Absent
Craig McCormick	Trustee	Absent
John Argenziano	Trustee	Absent

Staff present: Nan Goerlitz, Jeanne Hamilton, Kathy Jeakins

Introduction of Public
There were no members of the public present.

Public Comment
There were no public comments.

Reports

The following item was presented:

Item 5.A. President's Report

President Parker referenced the recent Presidential Executive Order cutting funding for the Institute of Museum and Library Services. She wanted to be on record saying how much she supports libraries and museums. Separately, she expressed excitement for the recent HerStory program and the unveiling of the dollhouse in Children's Services.

The following item was presented:

Item 5.B. Director's Report

Director Hamilton related the story behind the dollhouse. It is too fragile for actual play, and is protected by a plexiglass front, but the Children's Department has different activities planned for it, such as the current seek and find activity. The HerStory program went very well, with people portraying different historical figures throughout the library.

She expanded on the Presidential Executive Order eliminating the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), which is an organization that allocates federal funding to museums and libraries. The Bloomington Public Library is fortunate that in the state of Illinois the local libraries are heavily funded by property taxes, so there is less reliance on funding from that agency. The state does receive just over $5 million a year from IMLS which is used to fund projects and special grants throughout the state. One of the projects the state has chosen to fund with this money is interlibrary loan deliveries, which would be the most direct impact that the Bloomington Public Library could see. Bloomington received 5000 items through interlibrary loan delivery last year. Other areas supported by these funds are Illinois Libraries Present, Director's University, and literacy research.

Director Hamilton reminded trustees to file their Statement of Economic Interest by the May 1st deadline. She shared the Illinois Library Association magazine which featured the library's renovation. She is finishing work on the Digital Equity Capacity Grant and feels the library group has a good chance of being awarded the grant. The Directory pointed out that the library is underspent on electricity, which is due to the efficient building and the solar panels.

The following item was presented:

Item 5.C. Fiscal Report

Kathy Jeakins indicated that the report is in the packet and entertained questions.

Consent Agenda

Items listed on the Consent Agenda are approved with one motion; Items pulled from the Consent Agenda for discussion are listed and voted on separately.

Item 6.A. Approve Minutes of 2/18/25: Regular Bloomington Public Library Board meeting

Item 6.B. Bills in the Amount of $590,103.82

Trustee Hollister made a motion, seconded by Trustee Chissell, to approve the consent agenda as presented.

Motion carried (viva voce, 6-0).

Approval Items

The following item was presented:

Item 7.A. Approve Transfer of Funds from the M & O Fund to the Capital Reserve Fund

Trustee Zeck made a motion, seconded by Trustee Henry, to approve the item as presented

AYES: Trustee Parker; Trustee Henry; Trustee Hollister; Trustee Chissell; Trustee Zeck; Trustee Hoonka

Motion carried, 6-0.

The following item was presented:

Item 7.B. Approve a Two-hour Delay in the Library's Opening on May 15, 2025 for Phone Installation and Staff Development

Trustee Zeck made a motion, seconded by Trustee Chissell, to approve the item as presented

Motion carried (viva voce, 6-0).

The following item was presented:

Item 7.C. Review and Approve Salary Ranges for Non-Union Employees

Trustee Zeck made a motion, seconded by Trustee Chissell, to approve the item as amended

AYES: Trustee Parker; Trustee Henry; Trustee Chissell; Trustee Zeck; Trustee Hoonka
NAYS: Trustee Hollister

Motion carried, 5-1.

The following item was presented:

Item 7.D. Authorize the Library Director to Enter into a Contract for "BPL ON THE GO" Services Van

Trustee Hollister made a motion, seconded by Trustee Chissell, to approve the item as presented

AYES: Trustee Parker; Trustee Henry; Trustee Hollister; Trustee Chissell; Trustee Zeck; Trustee Hoonka

Motion carried, 6-0.

Discussion Items

The following item was presented:

Item 8.A. Reminder to complete the Library Director's Annual Performance Review
President Parker reminded trustees to complete the review form by March 25.

Comments by Trustees

Trustee Hollister asked if the library used the iRead theme for Summer Reading Program. She mentioned that whenever she has RAILS meetings at the library everyone is so complimentary of the space. She attended the screening of WGLTs documentary Frozen & Forgotten at the library and thought it was excellent. She mentioned people talking about banned book clubs at a recent Illinois Reading Council meeting, and she wondered if the library has one. Director Hamilton said the library doesn't have a banned book club, but there are usually programs centered around banned books during Banned Books Week.

Trustee Henry referenced a Pantagraph article regarding small houses being built for the unhoused population. She also recommended a book she just finished called That Librarian by Amanda Jones. Lastly, she shared that this is her last board meeting, since she will not be at the April meeting.

Trustee Chissell asked if the agenda could include page numbers for the packet. Director Hamilton pointed out that each item on the agenda is linked to the appropriate page.

Adjournment

Trustee Chissell made a motion, seconded by Trustee Henry, to adjourn the meeting.

Motion carried (viva voce, 6-0).

The Meeting Adjourned at 6:38PM