

MINUTES OF THE NORTHBROOK PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD MEETING
March 19, 2026 | 7:00 pm

CALL REGULAR MEETING TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees was called to order at time 7:01 pm by Stacy Oliver.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES ROLL CALL

The roll was called by Jennifer McGee

Trustees Present: Bryce Budin, Maura Crisham, Stacy Oliver, Nimesh Patel, Janet Spector Bishop, Barbara Unikel

Trustees Absent: Adam Bazer

Staff Present: Kate Hall, Kelly Durov, Anna Amen, Becky Moore, Jennifer McGee, Adam Legler

Others Present:

APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA

3.1 Approval of Agenda

3.2 Approve Regular Session Minutes – February 19, 2026

3.3 Approve Executive Session Minutes – February 19, 2026

3.4 Approve Cash Balances & Income Statement February 2026

3.5 Approve Bills and Charges from February 2026 in the amount of \$1,080,752.15

3.6 Approve Non-Resident Fee Method

3.7 6-month Review of Closed/Executive Session Minutes

Janet Spector Bishop made the motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. Barbara Unikel seconded the motion.

On a roll call vote, Trustees voted:

“Aye”: Bryce Budin, Maura Crisham, Stacy Oliver, Nimesh Patel, Janet Spector Bishop,
Barbara Unikel

“Nay”: None

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

STAFF REPORTS

Executive Director Report

Kate Hall reminded the board of the upcoming Statement of Economic Interest and confirmed board attendance for the April 15 library visit and May 3 Master Plan Feedback session. She reviewed the

status of HB 5236 Bill and asked the board to support and reach out to local representatives for sponsorship. She also discussed the Cook County property tax situation.

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

Janet Spector Bishop commented on the Chutzpah Girls exhibit stating that it was very informative. Barbara Unikel commented on the newsletter thanking graphics and marketing for such a wonderful, happy, and in-depth publication. Bryce Budin commented that the ILA eBook Legislation webinar was well done and worthwhile.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Master Plan Project Update

Kate Hall stated that the project is in its initial stages, with the ThirdWay Space Audit scheduled for the week of March 23 and managers currently meeting with their departments to brainstorm and gather staff feedback.

Finalize FY27 Budget

Anna Amen reviewed reallocations, including updated staffing and benefits projections and answered board questions.

Nimesh Patel made the motion to approve the FY27 Budget for \$11,258,300 which includes Operating, IMRF, FICA, and Debt Services. Maura Crisham seconded the motion.

On a roll call vote, Trustees voted:

“Aye”: Bryce Budin, Maura Crisham, Stacy Oliver, Nimesh Patel, Janet Spector Bishop,
Barbara Unikel

“Nay”: None

NEW BUSINESS

Strategic Plan Year 1 Outcomes and Review

Kate Hall reviewed a new template created by marketing and graphics highlighting the library's strategic plan and outcomes. She talked about the Strategic Plan's 3 main themes highlighting Year 1's key achievements and challenges. The board provided feedback, recommending developing a visually appealing community focused template incorporating more graphical elements focusing on relevant topics that connects with the community. They also advised using social media to strategically promote key topics.

Appoint Board Nominating Committee

Stacy Oliver gave an overview of the nominating committee. Bryce Budin, Maura Crisham, and Nimesh Patel volunteered to be on the committee which will meet in April and May to finalize the officer slate to be presented at the May board meeting.

Discuss 2027 Library 75th Anniversary

Kate Hall asked for board input on the level of celebration for the Library's 75th Anniversary. After discussion, the board favored keeping the celebration contained and weaving it into existing programming, incorporating community engagement. The board suggested that the library seek the Friends of the Library (FOL) feedback and level of interest in the event.

Executive Director Evaluation

Executive Director evaluation discussed during closed session.

CLOSED SESSION:

Bryce Budin made the motion to go into Closed Session at 7:39 pm pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c)1 & 11: The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee of the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity.

Litigation, when an action against, affecting or on behalf of the particular public body has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal, or when the public body finds that an action is probable or imminent, in which case the basis for the finding shall be recorded and entered into the minutes of the closed meeting.

Janet Spector Bishop seconded the motion.

On a roll call vote, Trustees voted:

"Aye": Bryce Budin, Maura Crisham, Stacy Oliver, Nimesh Patel, Janet Spector Bishop,
Barbara Unikel

"Nay": None

The board returned to general session at 9:10 pm. There was no action taken from the closed session.

AGENDA BUILDING

The board discussed and decided to keep the following items on the April agenda:

- Master Plan Project Update
- FY27 Board Meeting Dates
- Quarterly Strategic Plan Report Check In
- Website Project Update
- Filtering in Libraries Article and Discussion
- Debrief on Skokie Library Tour
- Executive Director Annual Goals

ADJOURN

Stacy Oliver declared the meeting adjourned at 9:13 pm.

FINAL VOTE OR ACTION MAY BE TAKEN AT THE MEETING ON ANY AGENDA ITEM SUBJECT MATTER LISTED ABOVE, UNLESS THE AGENDA LINE ITEM SPECIFICALLY STATES OTHERWISE.

Stacy L. Oliver

Stacy Oliver, President

Jennifer McGee

Jennifer McGee, Recorder