

MINUTES OF THE NORTHBROOK PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD MEETING  
April 16, 2026 | 7:00 pm

CALL REGULAR MEETING TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees was called to order at time 7:00 pm by Stacy Oliver.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES ROLL CALL

The roll was called by Jennifer McGee

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

Trustees Absent:

Staff Present: Kate Hall, Kelly Durov, Anna Amen, Becky Moore, Jennifer McGee, Aaron Ashmann, Linda Vering

Others Present:

APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA

- 3.1 Approval of Agenda
- 3.2 Approve Regular Session Minutes – March 19, 2026
- 3.3 Approve Executive Session Minutes – March 19, 2026
- 3.4 Approve Cash Balances & Income Statement March 2026
- 3.5 Approve Bills and Charges from March 2026 in the amount of \$855,620.93
- 3.6 Approve FY27 Board Meeting Dates
- 3.7 Approve Transfer of Funds to Debt Service and CIF

Nimesh Patel made the motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. Janet Spector Bishop seconded the motion.

On a roll call vote, Trustees voted:

“Aye”: Adam Bazer, 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 May 3 Special Session to discuss the master plan, noted that ILA elections are happening, and shared legislative updates on HB 5236 and other key bill priorities.

Becky Moore gave an overview of Staff Development Day and went over the agenda and break-out sessions.

### Current Perspectives on Library Internet Practices

Stacy Oliver led a board discussion on internet practices, focusing on the intersection of internet filtering and intellectual freedom. Members discussed the challenges of addressing harmful internet behavior without resorting to censorship. Ultimately, the board favored digital literacy initiatives and patron education over implementing technical blocks.

## BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

Trustees shared updates on their recent community involvement. Janet Spector Bishop enjoyed the "Family Chess" drop-in, noting it as a great way for parents and kids to connect. Bryce Budin attended the "Meet the Author Fair," where she was impressed by the organization and the pride local authors took in their work. Stacy Oliver reported a high turnout and a very successful preview for the Friends of the Library Book Sale. Finally, Nimesh Patel attended the "Making the Movie: Home Alone" program, a co-sponsored event by the Winnetka and Northbrook Historical Societies. There, he met the owner of a dollhouse built to scale of a local Northbrook home.

### Nominating Committee Update

Nimesh Patel shared an update from the Nominating Committee meeting that took place before the board meeting.

### Skokie Library Tour Comments

Board members shared favorable feedback on their recent Skokie Library visit and appreciated the tour led by Richard Kong. Time for further discussion is allocated for May's board meeting.

## UNFINISHED BUSINESS

### Website Project Update

Linda Vering updated the Board on the BiblioWeb project, which is ahead of schedule for its October 2026 launch. Currently in the staff training phase, the project integrates BiblioWeb and BiblioCore to provide a seamless user experience with enhanced, feedback-driven discovery and search tools. Linda Vering concluded her update by addressing the Board's questions and feedback.

### Master Plan Project Update

Kate Hall reported that the Master Plan is currently in the feedback and space-audit stage. These findings will soon be used to develop design options with architects. The board also discussed the importance of using facilitated groups to better understand how patrons utilize the space.

## NEW BUSINESS

### Quarterly Strategic Plan Report Check In

Kate Hall reported on first-quarter accomplishments and ongoing 2026 priorities, which include EDI work, the Master Plan, safety upgrades, website improvements, and civic engagement. The Board provided feedback, requesting that the report be revised to include outcomes of strategic goals.

## CLOSED SESSION:

The board did not go into closed session.

## AGENDA BUILDING

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

- Nominating Committee Presents New Slate of Officers
- Election of Board Officers
- Appoint OMA Officer
- Approve Tax Levy Letter to Village
- Update FOIA Information in Executive Director Succession Plan
- Update FOIA Policy
- Master Plan Project Update and Presentation
- Summer Reading Presentation
- 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade
- Executive Director Review Process
- Executive Director Annual Goals Review
- Outsourcing Security

## ADJOURN

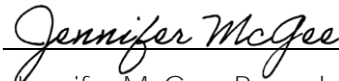
Stacy Oliver declared the meeting adjourned at 8:27 pm.

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.



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Stacy Oliver, President



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Jennifer McGee, Recorder