

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

HELD ON

May 12, 2025

A meeting of the Library Board of Directors of the Kanawha County Public Library was held on Monday May 12, 2025 at 4:00 PM via Zoom and in-person in the Board Room at the Main Library

The following Board members were present:

Ms. S. Haden	Ms. A. Silbernagel
Mr. J. Holliday	Ms. D. Sonis
Mr. T. Hurney	Dr. K. Sullivan
Mr. J. Jarrett	Ms. C. Tawney
Ms. B. King	Mr. B. Thomas
Ms. B. Malkin	Dr. R. Wallace
Mr. L. Moore	

Library Foundation Board members present: Mr. Bryan Cokeley.

KCPL staff members present: Ms. Erika Connelly, Ms. Marsha Alford, Ms. Jen Meddings, Mr. Jay Raber, Mr. Stan Howell, Mr. Teddy Claypool, Mr. Ben Ball, Ms. Julianne Yacovone, Ms. Terri McDougal, and Mr. Michael Polak.

Others in attendance: Mr. Christopher Winton; library counsel, Ms. Ashley Perham; Reporter Charleston-Gazette.

Mr. Thomas entered the meeting at 10 after, in his absence, First Vice President, Ms. Haden presided over the first portion of the meeting.

Communications

During the month between Board meetings, Ms. Connelly and several Board members received letters from two patrons regarding the library's decision to remove music CDs from its physical collection. Ms. Connelly offered to meet with all members of the public who would like to discuss this direction further. She explained that CDs are difficult to purchase from the library's vendors due to scarcity.

Approval of Minutes

Upon a motion made, seconded, and ADOPTED, the Board approved the minutes of the meeting on April 14, 2025 as distributed.

Director's Report

Monday, May 12 was the first day for KCPL's new Financial Services Coordinator, Mr. Jay Raber. Ms. Connelly introduced him to the board and he was enthusiastically welcomed to the team.

The board received a full financial report in this meeting's packet that covered all transactions and account statements in the first quarter of the 2025 calendar year (from Jan 1 to March 31). She gave a brief overview of the document.

KCPL's Summer Library Club kickoff weekend will begin on Saturday, May 31. The library's Programming Manager, Mr. Ben Ball, gave an overview of featured programs for the summer. This year's theme is "Color Your World."

KCPL is observing Mental Health Awareness month in May, as part of this month's programs, the Main library's children's department hosted the Kanawha-Charleston Human Association for "Puppies and Kittens, Oh My." The three-hour program on May 6th had 86 visitors. The staff at KCHA brought adoptable animals.

Action Items

1. Approval of Update to Collection Development Policy

A special committee of the Board met earlier in the year to review KCPL's Collection Development Policy, with a particular focus on the "Request for Reconsideration of Library Materials" section. Library counsel, Mr. Chris Winton, reviewed and approved the committee's suggested document. The new policy is more consistent with the governing law. Ms. Connelly explained that the library receives around 5-6 challenges to materials each year. These are reviewed by the director and a team of three professional librarians. The following resolution was then read into record; it was approved unanimously.

APPROVED, that effective May 12, 2025, the Kanawha County Public Library ADOPTS the new Request for Reconsideration of Library Materials policy as distributed in the board packet.

Reports of Committees

Old Business

New Business

Mr. Thomas assigned a nominating committee for the 2025-26 fiscal year Board officers, he gave this task to the Membership Committee minus chair Stephanie Haden, who is presently the Vice President of the Board of Directors. The committee will meet this month to confirm President, Vice President, and Second Vice President of the Board for the next fiscal year.

Mr. Thomas explained that the By-Laws of the Board of Directors require a brief annual meeting on the first Friday of each July, unless that day is a designated holiday. As is the case in the 2025 calendar, Mr. Thomas suggested the Annual Meeting be scheduled for the following Monday. Upon a motion made by Mr. Jarrett and seconded by Ms. Silbernagel, the following went into the record.

APPROVED, that the 2025 Annual meeting of the Kanawha County Public Library Board Directors will be held on Monday July 7, 2025 at 4:00 p.m.

Mr. Thomas introduced Foundation Board President, Mr. Bryan Cokeley, who shared a brief update with the Board, announcing that the six new Foundation Board members will be onboarded in the meeting on June 3rd.

Adjourn

There being no further business, a motion was made to adjourn this meeting. Motion was seconded, and the meeting ADJOURNED at 4:34 P.M.

President

Secretary