

FREEPORT PUBLIC LIBRARY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
RESCHEDULED REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, JANUARY 20, 2026 | 3:00PM

I. CALL TO ORDER

A meeting of the Freeport Public Library Board of Trustees was held in the Library Boardroom on Tuesday, January 20th, 2026. Board President Mary Kaufman presided and called the meeting to order at 3:00pm.

Notice is hereby given that a majority of a quorum of the members of City Council of the City of Freeport may be present at the above-referenced meeting. No action on the part of the City Council will be taken.

Trustees Present

Betty Butler, Al Evon (3:02pm), Alan Greene, Mary Kaufman, Lucas Kramer, Tasha Mazique, Roger Schulz

Trustees Absent

Julie Reynolds, Michelle Swalve

Also present, Interim Director Amanda Meyers and Ky Eckert acting as the Recording Secretary.

II. CHANGES/CORRECTIONS TO THE AGENDA

None.

III. QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC/MEDIA

None.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

(Schulz, Butler) Motion to approve November 12th, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes, December 10th, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes, and January 7th, 2026 Administration Committee Meeting Minutes.
5 in favor/0 opposed. Motion carries.

V. FINANCIAL REPORT

Evon entered at 3:02pm.

The Board briefly discussed the end of FY2025 budget report. Kaufman noted interest income was significantly increased and the library received more in grants as well.

(Greene, Schulz) Motion to approve the November & December 2025 Finance Report.
6 in favor/0 opposed. Motion carries.

VI. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Director Search Update

Evon and Schulz joined Kaufman and Dieters & Todd Consulting for the Zoom interviews on January 7th. The consultants brought three candidates to the Board. Kaufman also reviewed the agenda for in-person interviews

on January 24th. Library staff and Mayor Miller will also attend. After interviews, the Board will reconvene to discuss. Kaufman stressed the importance of the Trustees' attendance for this process.

VII. INTERIM DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Meyers reported the resignation of Lead Clerk Aimee Dyson. The position has been changed back to part-time, and internally filled by Danielle Bazarek, the previous Lead Clerk. She will seamlessly transition back into that role today. A Clerk 4 resigned last week as well, leaving two part-time Clerk positions open. Applicants can find more information about the job posting and apply on the Library website.

Meyers reported that Pretzel City Transit voucher sales have been going smoothly.

The managers meetings are taking place every other week, and managers have completed Narcan training as required by state law.

For facilities, a boiler inspection occurred on December 3. Helm has been out to replace a leaking valve, and documentation was successfully submitted to the inspector. Also, the first floor restroom remodel was completed earlier this month. Finishing touches such as lighting upgrades and rubber baseboards should be installed in the coming weeks.

Meyers mentioned that the Library is highlighting Explore More Illinois, a cultural pass program that allows Illinois public library cardholders access discounts at museums, park districts, historical societies, zoos, arts centers, recreational facilities, and other attractions.

Meyers asked the Trustees their opinion about Mt. Calvary Church providing sack lunches to patrons in need. The Board agreed that Meyers can move forward with this. Mazique asked to make sure they have a food handlers license.

Evon requested an update about the Foundation. Meyers confirmed that they met last Tuesday and passed the FY2026 budget. Evon asked if they had agreed to pay for the consulting fees. Meyers was unsure, this was discussed in November, but communication has not progressed since then. The first installment was expensed to the Other Professional Services line FY2025.

Meyers also mentioned the new meeting room chairs arrived and we love them!

VIII. MANAGEMENT REPORTS

Adult Services/ Tech Services

Meyers reviewed statistics for December 2025 programming.

Circulation

Meyers reviewed statistics for December 2025 Circulation, reporting more circulation than November.

Youth Services

Meyers reviewed statistics and highlights for December programming. She also explained the transition for the FHN Festival of Trees and Santa Storytimes to be taken on by the Library in preparation for FHN discontinuing this program. She reviewed exciting year-end stats for the Youth Department including total programs and attendance for teens and littles. Kaufman congratulated Meyers on her success.

IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

X. NEW BUSINESS

Circulation Policy Update

In the fall of 2025, the Board approved the option for non-resident card payments to be made quarterly, biannually or annually. The policy has been updated to reflect this change.

(Greene/Schulz) Motion to approve the changes to the Circulation Policy as presented.
6 in favor/0 opposed. Motion carries.

XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION

(Greene/Schulz) Motion to move to Executive Session at 3:29pm *Pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c)1 The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body or legal counsel for the public body.*

6 in favor/0 opposed. Motion carries.

(Schulz/Mazique) Motion to enter open session at 4:05pm.

6 in favor/0 opposed. Motion carries.

(Schulz, Evon) Motion to amend the compensation package for the Interim Director and the Assistant to the Interim Director as follows; Interim Director Amanda Meyer's pay will be retroactively adjusted to 33%, a 25% increase, and Assistant to the Interim Director Ky Eckert's pay will be retroactively adjusted to 12%, a 4% increase.

XII. DISCUSSION

None.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

(Greene, Schulz) Motion to adjourn at 4:07pm.

6 in favor/0 opposed. Motion carries.

Submitted by Ky Eckert