

FREEPORT PUBLIC LIBRARY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2026

I. CALL TO ORDER

A meeting of the Freeport Public Library Board of Trustees was held in the Library Boardroom on February 11, 2026. Board President Mary Kaufman presided and called the meeting to order at 6:01pm.

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, Lucas Kramer, Mary Kaufman, Tasha Mazique, Julie Reynolds, Roger Schulz

Trustees Absent

Alan Greene, Michelle Swalve

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

II. CHANGES/CORRECTIONS TO THE AGENDA

The closed session minutes listed will be approved at a later date.

(Schulz/Evon) Motion to approve the changes to the agenda.

7 in favor/ 0 opposed. Motion carries.

III. QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC/MEDIA

None.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

(Reynolds/Schulz) Motion to approve the regular Board of Trustees meeting minutes from January 20, 2026 and January 24, 2026.

7 in favor/ 0 opposed. Motion carries.

V. FINANCIAL REPORT

(Butler/Mazique) Motion to approve the January 2026 Financial Report.

7 in favor/ 0 opposed. Motion carries.

VI. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Kaufman shared the Final Letter from Library Consulting Deiters & Todd and thanked the Board, Eckert, and Meyers.

VII. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Meyers shared the January report. Interviews were conducted for two part-time Clerk 4 openings. Both have returned signed offer letters, and City HR is working on their pre-employment steps. The Library's full-time Clerk 5 in Adult Services submitted her resignation January 29. That job is now posted internally and externally.

The Per Capita Grant was received and approved by the state.

FPL received a \$10,000 check from the Carnegie Corporation. Even though we are no longer in a Carnegie building, we qualify because the Library "acknowledges our Carnegie heritage."

The Conference Room is officially closed to the public as we transition it into the Teen Space. Ordering items for the Teen Space continues. The goal is to have it open to the public by March 1.

The new tables for the Youth Services Program room arrived. These were purchased by a grant from State Bank.

Meyers also thanked the Board for trusting her to be Interim Director.

VIII. MANAGEMENT REPORTS

Adult Services/ Tech Services

Meyers reviewed AS programming and statistics from January. One highlight was the new and very popular Puzzle Race program.

Circulation

Meyers reviewed Circulation statistics with 101 new patrons in January.

Youth Services/ Teen

Meyers reviewed her Youth Services report, and shared that in mid-December, they learned that one of the regular storytime littles has a serious illness. The Storytime "family" made 25 heart shaped suncatchers for her as a craft during one of the storytimes in January. The family was very thankful to have received them.

Year End Statistics

Meyers reviewed the 2025 Year End Statistics with the Trustees, comparing program stats to 2024.

IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

X. NEW BUSINESS

Executive Director Hire

(Evon/Schulz) Motion to ratify the hire of Emily Schaub as Executive Director at \$80,000 annual salary and \$2,500 in relocating expenses to start on February 23rd, 2026.

7 in favor/ 0 opposed. Motion carries.

Helm Contract

(Reynolds/Schulz) Motion to renew the Helm Contract for 2026 as presented.

7 in favor/ 0 opposed. Motion carries.

XI. DISCUSSION

Kaufman expressed the importance of the annual Board Tour of Facilities. The board toured after the meeting adjourned.

Evon asked if the Board is asking the Foundation to pay for the consulting fees. Kaufman replied that she had spoken to a Foundation member and they were unaware, but they are happy to consider it.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

(Schulz/Reynolds) Motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:37pm.
7 in favor/ 0 opposed. Motion carries.

Submitted by Ky Eckert