

**MINUTES**  
**PARK RIDGE PUBLIC LIBRARY**  
Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees  
Held at the Park Ridge Public Library  
20 S. Prospect Avenue  
Park Ridge, IL 60068  
February 17, 2026, at 7:00 p.m.

**CALL TO ORDER**

President Renaldi called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

Trustees Present: Michael Donahue, Kevin Haggerty, Briana Jarnagin, Josh Kiem, Danielle Powers, Theresa Renaldi, Deepika Thiagarajan  
Trustees Absent: Anita DeFrank, Gregg Rusk  
Others Present: Joanna Bertucci, Library Director, Angela Berger, Lauren Bochat, Staci Greenwald, Laura Scott, Joan Wrenn; Library Staff  
Jim Gibson, Elara Engineering, Gregg Rusk (via telephone)

**PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

None

**CONSENT AGENDA**

President Renaldi directed the Board's attention to the list of items on the Consent Agenda and stated that if a trustee(s) would like an item removed from Consent, the item will be removed for further discussion after the Consent Agenda is approved. No requests were made for removal of items from Consent.

The following items are included on the Consent Agenda:

- Approval of Minutes of the January 20, 2026 Regular Meeting of the Library Board
- Ratify Bills Payable Warrant Register Period 13, December 31, 2025, in the amount of \$59,989.15 and Period 1, January 16, 2026, in the amount of \$203,730.05 and Period 1, January 31, 2026 in the amount of \$303,622.97
- Approve Cash Statement for all accounts for January 2026
- Ratify disbursements from the Gift Fund, \$455.17
- Amend the Library's FY2026 Capital Budget to include an additional \$10,000, reflecting the Carnegie Libraries 250 gift received in January, 2026 from the Carnegie Corporation of New York
- Approve FY25 to FY26 Capital Budget – Building Improvements carry-forward in the amount of \$142,636
- Approve the Children in the Library policy, as revised
- Approve the Vulnerable Adults policy, as revised

Trustee Thiagarajan made a **motion**

**MOTION:** To approve the Consent Agenda

Vice President Powers seconded the motion

Roll Call Vote: Yes: Donahue, Haggerty, Jarnagin, Kiem, Powers, Renaldi, Thiagarajan

Absent: DeFrank, Rusk

**Motion passed**

**TREASURERS REPORT**

Treasurer Donahue directed the Board's attention to pages 15 and 17 of the packet and the Consolidated YTD Revenue and Expenditures Report for FY25 Period 13 and FY26 Period 1. Treasurer Donahue noted that for Period 13, total expenditures are at 91% of the YTD budget. A deficit spend of approximately \$3million is still being shown due to the second installment property taxes having not yet been received and/or recorded. FY26 Period 1 total expenses are at 6% of budget, reflecting a significant capital expenditure recorded this month for the HVAC project.

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Treasurer Donahue made a **motion**

**MOTION:** To approve the Consolidated Year to Date Revenue and Expenditures Reports for FY25 Period 13, December 2025 and FY26 Period 1, January, 2026

President Renaldi seconded the motion

Roll Call Vote: Yes: Donahue, Haggerty, Jarnagin, Kiem, Powers, Renaldi, Thiagarajan

Absent: DeFrank, Rusk

**Motion passed**

#### **HVAC PROJECT UPDATE**

Jim Gibson, principal with Elara Engineering, provided an update on the HVAC project. He outlined each of the three major project phases, noting the current status of each phase. He noted that Phase 3 work will begin in March, 2026 and will result in more disruption to staff and patrons due to the nature and location (third floor) of the work being done. Mr. Gibson stated his opinion that the project is on track and that he now anticipates substantial completion in the May-June, 2026 timeframe.

#### **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

President Renaldi stated that the March, 2026 Board meeting has been rescheduled to Monday, March 16, 2026; a change to the regularly scheduled meeting that would have been held on Tuesday, March 17, 2026. This change is necessary due to recent changes to the Illinois Open Meetings Act which prohibit meetings being held on election day. The March 16, 2026 meeting will be held at the library, not at City Hall, as City Hall will be in use as a polling place on that date.

#### **SECRETARY'S REPORT**

Secretary Kiem's directed the Board's attention to each of the PRPL website and press articles included in the Secretary's report on page 19 of the packet.

#### **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Director Bertucci directed the Board's attention to pages 20-22 and the newly formatted report of statistics. She explained that the new format is designed to better align data with strategic plan goals. The new format will allow tracking against both prior year and plan goals. She added that a quarterly report will be provided and that performance measures will be added as work is completed to allow for goals to be set. For example, digital material usage is currently being analyzed and that analysis will lead to performance goals for growth of various formats.

Director Bertucci then reviewed the newly formatted director's report beginning on page 23 of the packet. The new format reflects each of the strategic plan goals and also provides updates on operations occurring throughout the month. Director Bertucci updated the Board on the work being done by ThirdWay Spaces and the onsite work that occurred on January 28-29. Next steps in this project include heat mapping to document how patrons are currently using the building and a meeting on February 24 to further discuss the marketplace concept for display of physical materials and proposed display fixture purchases.

An update on the status of the project with Communico to transition to their calendaring platform, app, and reading program tracking platform was provided by Director Bertucci. It is anticipated that the new calendaring platform will be up and running in mid-March. Work to develop a PRPL app is ongoing, and when completed, will provide an integrated platform for accessing all library services and materials.

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**FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY REPORT**

Director Bertucci reported that the Friends did not submit a report this month.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None

**NEW BUSINESS**

None

**ADJOURNMENT**

Vice President Powers made a

**MOTION:** To adjourn the meeting

Trustee Thiagarajan seconded the motion

Voice Vote: Yes: All in favor

**Motion passed**

The meeting adjourned at 7:39 p.m.

