

**MINUTES  
ELMHURST PUBLIC LIBRARY  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
Tuesday, March 17, 2026  
Kossmann Room  
7:00 PM**

President Cindy Wellwood called the March 17, 2026 Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees to order at 7:00 p.m.

Board members in attendance included: Ingrid Becton, Jane Chornij, Taylor Holop, Carol Jacobsen, Sue Sadowski, and Bill Shanklin.

Trustees Marsha Baker and Bill Ryan were absent.

Also in attendance were Library Director Mary Beth Harper and Assistant Director Marcy Rodriguez.

Visitor Steve Sullivan was in attendance.

During public comment, Mr. Sullivan voiced his concern to the Board after staff would not allow him to use the study room in the Kids' Library when he was using the collection for a potential writing project. Director Harper stated that she had spoken with staff and that Mr. Sullivan is welcome to use the study room since he is using the collection. She went on to say that staff ask adults who are not using the collection or do not have a child with them to use other areas of the Library.

There was no correspondence.

The first order of business was the approval of the Minutes of the February 17, 2026 Regular Board of Trustees Meeting. Trustee Sadowski moved:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the February 17, 2026 Regular Board of Trustees Meeting be approved as presented.

Trustee Jacobsen seconded the motion. The motion carried.

The next order of business was the approval of the March 17, 2026 Accounts Payable. Trustee Becton moved:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

That the March 17, 2026 Accounts Payable be approved as presented.

Trustee Chornij seconded the motion. Director Harper answered several questions about the invoices. The motion carried.

Director Harper reviewed the financial reports and stated that the Library receives most of its property tax payments in June. Sufficient funds in reserves cover expenses until tax payments are received. She pointed out that a replacement tax payment of \$54,791 was received last month after the report was issued. Director Harper then answered several questions from the Board.

Ms. Harper reviewed the expenditure report. She noted that the Group Health line reflects the annual lump sum payments made to employees enrolled in the Health Savings Account plan. She also mentioned that the \$12,875 listed under Contractual Services for Public Info was for the Fine Print newsletter.

In the Director's Report, Ms. Harper stated that the seed library is up and running. Patrons are thrilled to take seeds, and staff have already had to refill it several times due to the demand. We've even received a few donations, including a small cash contribution. To avoid confusion, staff updated the signage on the donation box to indicate that we accept seed donations only and not cash.

She also stated that the HR Manager, Mary Pellico, is retiring. Her last day is May 1.

In the President's Report, Ms. Wellwood read a reply from the Broadview Library regarding their temporary closure. She also discussed IL House Bill 5236, the Digital Library Protection Act.

The first order of New Business was the web content accessibility guidelines 2.1 (WCAG). Director Harper stated that in April 2024, the US Department of Justice released a final rule revising Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, which requires websites of public entities to comply with Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2.1. Because the Library's population is less than 50,000, we have until April 26, 2027, to comply with these new standards. She went over the steps that Administration will take to assess the website and its content to comply with by next year.

The next order of New Business was the Surety Bond. Director Harper stated that under State Statute 75 ILCS5/4-9, municipal libraries of less than 500,000 population are required to carry a surety bond or insurance coverage that is at least equal to 10% of the library's operating fund. Library funds are covered under the City of Elmhurst Crime Policy, but the coverage amount is less than the required 10%. The City will have its insurance company issue a separate surety

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bond for \$1,000,000 to cover the 10% requirement. The cost for the additional coverage will be approximately \$1,000. and the bond renews yearly.

The next order of New Business was the review of the Closed Session Meeting Minutes. Director Harper stated that closed session meetings are reviewed twice a year. Trustee Sadowski moved:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

That the Executive Session Minutes dated September 20, 2016, remain closed.

That the Executive Session Minutes dated July 15, 2025, remain closed.

Trustee Becton seconded the motion. The motion carried.

The next order of New Business was the review of the Display & Exhibits policy. Director Harper reviewed the policy. Trustee Shanklin moved.

Trustee Sadowski seconded the motion. The motion carried.

There being no Other Business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:48 p.m.