



Springfield-Greene County Library Board of Trustees

March 25, 2025

Meeting Minutes

The Board of Trustees of the Springfield-Greene County Library District met on Tuesday, March 25, 2025, at 4:00 p.m. at The Library Center. The Trustees in attendance were Mar'Ellen Felin, Stacey Penney, Clinton Beecham, Rachel Morrow, Aaron Jones, David Yancey, Melanie Weiler, and Chris Bozarth (joined at 4:06).

The meeting was called to order at 4:04 p.m.

Public Comment

Thomas Barton addressed the Board with concerns about the time Board meetings are held. Barton asked for clarification on procedures for addressing the Board and mentioned the need for additional Library Kiosks.

Meeting Minutes

Felin moved and Weiler seconded that the minutes be approved. Motion carried (8 yes, 0 no).

Building and Grounds Committee

Beecham presented the committee report discussing updates on The Schweitzer Brentwood roof repair, The Library Station lighting upgrade, and The Library Center projects. The Midtown opening has been delayed to late April or early May. The Library Center Auditorium and the Republic Branch project are both on track.

Finance and Personnel Committee

Penney presented the report, discussing the FY2025 budget and plans for FY2026.

- The committee motioned to authorize the Springfield Greene County Library District to spend an additional \$300,000 on technology during FY2025. Motion carried (8 yes, 0 no).
- The committee motioned to move funds in the Restricted Capital account to the Reserve account for the Hatch Auditorium. Motion carried (8 yes, 0 no).
- The committee motioned to close the Restricted Capital bank account. Motion carried (8 yes, 0 no).

Penney discussed significant legislative impacts on the FY2026 budget, with an emphasis of discussion on Proposition A.

- The committee motioned to adopt the new policy for sick leave as written. Motion carried (8 yes, 0 no).

Programs, Services, and Technology Committee

Allison Eckhardt gave a brief presentation about Outreach Services, focusing on current services and future goals. Kayla Pike will send a copy of the presentation to all Board members.

Institutional Advancement Report

Bridget Dierks discussed the current structure of The Library Foundation and elaborated on steps to take moving forward to help the Foundation be more effective in the future. Dierks is currently focused on updating the website, establishing a vision and mission statement for the Foundation, and building the Foundation Board in numbers.

Bozarth left the meeting at 4:50.

Executive Director's Monthly Report

Walton reviewed highlights from his prepared report.

- The Strategic Planning process is moving forward. The plan will be presented to the Board at the April Retreat.
- The Adult Winter Reading Challenge had a 33% increase in participation from 2024.
- Walton has reached out to senators and representatives concerning ongoing legislative initiatives that will impact libraries and Boards.

Unfinished Business

No report.

New Business

- The February 2025 Statistical Report shows that numbers are continuing to trend up.
- Yancey motioned for Felin to become the liaison between the Library Board and the Library Foundation. Jones seconded. Motion carried (7 yes, 0 no).

Miscellaneous Items of Business

Lori Ruzicka introduced the Library Leads Group: 19 individuals are participating to gain leadership and management skills, as well as learn more about the Library. This group attended the Board meeting today and will graduate from their program in May 2025.

Beecham motioned to adjourn the meeting. Yancey seconded. Motion carried. (7 yes, 0 no)

The meeting adjourned at 5:06 p.m.