



Springfield-Greene County Library Board of Trustees

August 19, 2025

Meeting Minutes

The Board of Trustees of the Springfield-Greene County Library District met on Tuesday, August 19, 2025, at 4:00 p.m. at The Library Center. The Trustees in attendance were: James Nevins, Mar'Ellen Felin, Melanie Weiler, Rachael Morrow, David Yancey, Aaron Jones, Chris Bozarth (joined at 4:05) and Stacey Penney (joined at 4:12).

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

Meeting Minutes

Nevins moved and Morrow seconded that the minutes be approved. Motion carried. (6 yes, 0 no)

Building and Grounds Committee

Walton presented the committee report.

- Walton discussed updates for Capital Improvement Projects.
- Big Lots next door to the Library Station is changing to a Tractor Supply Store. Walton will attend a public hearing concerning potential fencing modifications.
- Capital improvement funds will be used to restore the pavilion at The Library Center. This project will include installing a canopy, lights, fans, heaters, and upgrading furniture.
- A concrete baluster was damaged by a patron at The Library Center. This will be an in house repair.
- ARPA project updates were reviewed.
- The Midtown project bill is currently with the architect. The Library is asking for the total \$55,000 in liquidated funds.
- The Republic project is on track. The current branch will close on December 6 and staff will transition to the new building in January.

Finance and Personnel Committee

Nevins presented the committee report discussing financials, ARPA project reports and a revised meeting room policy.

- The audit will begin on September 2. The Board will receive the results in December.
- The Finance and Personnel Committee motioned that the Board move the remaining \$54,751.47 from FY2025 from checking to reserves. Motion carried. (8 yes, 0 no)
- The July report shows the Library is under budget for payroll due to 11 positions that are in the budget not needing to be filled until November / December.

- The meeting room policy was tabled in the Finance and Personnel Committee. The Committee will review the revised policy in September.

Programs, Services, and Technology Committee

- No meeting / no report.

Institutional Advancement Report

Bridget Dierks presented the report.

- A check signing will take place on September 25, at 11:00 at the Republic Branch for a gift received for the Republic capital campaign.
- The Foundation has launched a gift planning work group.
- The Foundation has been working on structural pieces, such as: the website, policy approvals, an annual giving campaign, marketing and establishing a budget.
- David Jones pledged to give \$25,000 to make a professional exhibit for archival collections in the Local History department.
- The Friends of the Library Book Sale will take place September 17-21.
- Katie Hopkins is the new liaison for the Friends of the Library.
- The Library recently received a \$25,000 grant from the Springfield Sertoma Club to aid staff in working and engaging with patrons with autism.

Executive Director's Monthly Report

Walton presented the report, highlighting testifying at an interim committee concerning property tax reform.

Unfinished Business

- McGrath was on campus last week collecting data for the Compensation, Classification and Benefits Study. The Board will receive progress updates on this study at each monthly meeting.
- Numbers of unique web visitors were inflated with the old system the Library was using. The new system upgrades are providing more granular data.

New Business

- The Tax Rate Approval meeting will take place on August 26. Board members may choose to join virtually.
- Data suggests that many of the Midtown users went to The Library Station instead of the Park Central Branch during the Midtown closure. The Library will need another 4-5 months of data collection to gain a better understanding of branch usage and patron movement during the Midtown closure.
- The counter at Midtown has recently been elevating the numbers. The camera has been adjusted. The Library may go back and adjust this report in the future.
- Jones asked the Board to consider visiting other branches for Board or committee meetings. Plans for location changes will need to be made 2-3 months in advance. The Board will continue this discussion at the September meeting.

Yancey motioned to adjourn the meeting. Nevins seconded. Motion carried. (8 yes, 0 no)

The meeting adjourned at 4:41 p.m.