

SKOKIE PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

April 9, 2025 Meeting Minutes

Carolyn A. Anthony Business and Community Center

CALL TO ORDER

Gene Griffin, President, called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

Members present:

- Gene Griffin, President; Mary Pietrucha, Secretary; Amanda Lichtenstein; Ella Whitehead; Michelle Mallari; Voula Colburn.

Members absent:

- Shabnam Mahmood, Vice President.

Staff present:

- Richard Kong, Executive Director; Laura McGrath, Deputy Director; Amy Koester, Director of Public Services; Alyson Doubek, Finance Manager; Suzy Rodela-Sulik, Administrative Coordinator; Rick Sawdon, Program Assistant.

COMMENTS FROM OBSERVERS

There were no comments from observers.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF MARCH 12, 2025

At 6:31 pm, Ms. Whitehead made a motion, seconded by Ms. Colburn:

- MOTION: THAT THE SKOKIE PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF MARCH 12, 2025.

A vote was taken, and the minutes were approved unanimously and placed on file. There were 6 ayes and 0 nays.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Kong provided updates about celebrating staff during National Library Week, the LIMRICC board meeting, and the Illinois State Library Advisory Committee meeting.

APPROVAL OF THE MARCH 2025 DISBURSEMENT REPORT

At 6:37 pm, a motion was made by Ms. Pietrucha, seconded by Ms. Whitehead:

- MOTION: THAT THE SKOKIE PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES APPROVE THE MARCH 2025 DISBURSEMENT REPORT.

A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously. There were 6 ayes and 0 nays.

APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA

Ms. Kim Phillips summarized details about the strategic plan update report. The trustees discussed the reports, statistics, and programs.

At 7:12 pm, a motion was made by Ms. Lichtenstein, seconded by Ms. Mallari:

- MOTION: THAT THE SKOKIE PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES APPROVE THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, AND THAT THE FOLLOWING CONSENT AGENDA

ITEMS BE PLACED ON FILE:

1. REPORTS;

2. GIFTS:

3. PERSONNEL:

HIRES:

Effective 3/17/25:

Kevin Louie, Patron Services Assistant, Patron Services.

Sara Chatfield, Material Handler, Access Services.

Effective 3/31/25:

Nathan Michaelson, Experiential Learning Specialist, Learning Experiences.

Effective 4/7/25:

David Hewchuk, Safety Specialist, Safety.

Diego Rios Brady, Safety Specialist, Safety.

DEPARTURES:

Effective 3/14/25:

Jeff Obirek, Information Services Specialist, Patron Engagement.

Effective 3/25/25:

Wesley Connolly, Patron Services Assistant, Patron Services.

A vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously. There were 6 ayes and 0 nays.

PROJECTED YEAR-END INCOME STATEMENT

The trustees asked some clarifying questions and noted the projected year-end income statement.

QUARTERLY INVESTMENT UPDATE

The trustees noted the update.

APPROVAL OF RESCISSION OF PUBLIC SERVICE POLICY AND GUIDELINES

Ms. Koester and Mr. Kong summarized some details about the policy to be rescinded. The trustees asked some clarifying questions.

At 7:28 pm, a motion was made by Ms. Whitehead, seconded by Ms. Lichtenstein:

- MOTION: THAT THE SKOKIE PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES APPROVE THE RESCISSION OF THE PUBLIC SERVICE POLICY AND GUIDELINES.

A vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously. There were 6 ayes and 0 nays

APPROVAL OF FY 2025-2026 BUDGET

Mr. Kong provided some details about the proposed budget. The trustees asked some clarifying questions about business and health insurance.

At 7:37 pm, a motion was made by Ms. Colburn, seconded by Ms. Pietrucha:

- MOTION: THAT THE SKOKIE PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES APPROVE THE FISCAL YEAR 2025-2026 BUDGET AS PRESENTED.

A roll call vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously. There were 6 ayes and 0 nays.

COMMENTS FROM TRUSTEES

Mr. Griffin thanked the library staff for making the Volunteer Luncheon happen, and thanked departing trustees Ms. Lichtenstein and Ms. Colburn for their service to the library board. Ms. Lichtenstein thanked everyone for making the library a great hub of love and community. Ms. Colburn expressed her appreciation for the library board and staff.

ADJOURNMENT

At 7:42 pm, a motion was made by Ms. Colburn, seconded by Ms. Lichtenstein:

- MOTION: THAT THE SKOKIE PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES ADJOURN THE REGULAR MEETING.

A vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously. There were 6 ayes and 0 nays.

Mary Pietrucha, Secretary