

**Regular Board Meeting
March 19, 2026
Minutes**

1. Call to Order

Notice of the time of the meeting and agenda having been posted on the library bulletin board and one other public place, forty-eight hours prior to the meeting as required by law, the meeting was called to order at 6:02 p.m. by Kristine O'Sullivan, President.

2. Roll Call

Present: Marie Bass, Mary Anne Benden, Sylvia Fulk (arrived 6:05 p.m.), Brian Gilligan, Sylvia Haas, Kristine O'Sullivan, Andrea Shaeffer

Absent: None

Staff Present: Anne Belden, Jo Broszczak, Kate Fago, Malachi Kohlwey, Su Reynders, Suzanne Yazel

Visitors: None

3. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

4. Consent Agenda

- a. Approve Minutes of Regular Board Meeting of February 19, 2026
- b. Approve February 2026 Bills and Financial Reports
- c. Approve Library Closing on Friday, May 1 for Staff In-Service Day

Motion was made by Trustee Benden and seconded by Trustee Bass to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Roll Call Vote: AYES: Bass, Benden, Gilligan, Haas, O'Sullivan, Shaeffer. NAYS: None. ABSENT: Fulk. ABSTAIN: None. Motion carried.

5. Interactive Newsletter Demonstration

Marketing Assistant Kate Fago presented the new interactive library newsletter, highlighting its ability to expand access and improve the online user experience.

6. President's Report

President O'Sullivan reviewed the Board's self-evaluation process, noting that it is valuable and recommending that it be conducted either annually or every two years. The Board agreed to conduct it on a biennial basis, noting that the next Board self-evaluation will take place in 2027.

7. Review and Approve South Branch Relocation Project Expenditure Not to Exceed \$500,000

Executive Director Reynders gave an update on the South Branch relocation project advising that the village has approved the purchase of a new location for the Community Connections

Center. She explained that the request for \$500,000 would cover costs for architectural design services and furniture for the new South Branch library spaces.

Motion was made by Trustee Fulk and seconded by Trustee Benden to approve the South Branch Relocation Project Expenditure Not to Exceed \$500,000 as presented. Roll Call Vote: AYES: Bass, Benden, Fulk, Gilligan, Haas, O'Sullivan, Shaeffer. NAYS: None. ABSENT: None. ABSTAIN: None. Motion carried.

8. Cook County Tax Disbursements Delays Update

Executive Director Reynders provided an update on the ongoing Cook County tax disbursement payment delays, which continue to create significant operational and cash flow challenges for the Mount Prospect Public Library, as well as for other libraries and taxing bodies throughout Cook County. She reported that the library is still awaiting around \$700,000 in 2024 second installment payments.

She reported that she met with the auditor to discuss the potential impact on the 2025 audit and noted that year-end balances and the financial presentation may be materially affected.

9. Review and Approve Accessibility and ADA Policy

Trustees reviewed the Accessibility and ADA Policy and requested an amendment to Section XI A to include an introductory sentence to the ADA grievance procedure.

Motion was made by Trustee Bass and seconded by Trustee Gilligan to approve the Accessibility and ADA Policy as amended. Roll Call Vote: AYES: Bass, Benden, Fulk, Gilligan, Haas, O'Sullivan, Shaeffer. NAYS: None. ABSENT: None. ABSTAIN: None. Motion carried.

10. Executive Director Report

Executive Director Reynders reviewed the highlights of the monthly library report and answered questions. She reported that the Website Content Accessibility Project is nearly completed, with focus on ensuring all PDF documents are accessible and working with third party vendors regarding online content.

Executive Director Reynders reported concerns regarding equitable access to library e-content, due to unfair pricing and distribution practices from five publishers. She reviewed House Bill 5236, the Digital Library Protection Act, which aims to protect libraries from unreasonable limitations in licensing agreements for e-books, digital audiobooks, and other digital content.

11. Trustee Reports and Comments

Trustee Sylvia Fulk attended the February 23 Foundation Board meeting and reported that James Medina was appointed to the Foundation Board. Sylvia Fulk advised that the March Board meeting has been canceled. The next Foundation Board meeting is scheduled for April 27, and Trustee Andrea Shaeffer volunteered to attend.

12. Upcoming Meetings and Events Calendar

- a. March – Meet the Board – Sylvia Haas
- b. March 23 – Foundation Board Meeting – canceled
- c. April – Meet the Board – Sylvia Fulk
- d. April 7, 7:00 p.m. – National Library Week Proclamation at Village Board Meeting
- e. April 16, 6:00 p.m. – Regular Board Meeting
 - i. First Quarter Financial Review
- f. April 18-19 – Friends Book Sale
- g. April 27 - Foundation Board Meeting – Andrea Shaeffer

13. Closed Session

As pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2 (c) (21), discussion of minutes [and recordings] of meetings lawfully closed under this Act, whether for purposes of approval by the body of the minutes or semi-annual review of the minutes as mandated by Section 2.06.

Motion was made by Trustee Benden and seconded by Trustee Bass to adjourn to closed session at 7:04 p.m. Voice vote carried.

14. Reconvene Open Session

Open session was reconvened at 7:06 p.m.

Motion was made by Trustee Fulk and seconded by Trustee Bass to approve and release the closed minutes of November 20, 2025, and approve and not release the closed minutes of February 5, 2026, and to destroy the verbatim recordings from previously closed sessions held no earlier than 18 months after the completion of the meeting and the written minutes have been approved by the Board of Trustees. Voice vote carried.

15. Adjournment

Motion was made by Trustee Fulk and seconded by Trustee Shaeffer to adjourn the Regular Board meeting at 7:08 p.m. Voice vote carried.

/s/

Sylvia M. Haas, Secretary

Approved as submitted 04/16/2026