

Kankakee Public Library September 16th, 2025
Board Meeting Minutes

The meeting of the Kankakee Public Library Board of Trustees began 6:09pm.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Vena Burkes, Bruce Conway, Kent Wade, Mike Gall, Bonnie Brewer

Absent: Ruth Hatcher, Geraldine Adams, Michael Costanza, and Elizabeth Barbosa

Also present were: Allison Beasley, Library Director, Camille Rose, Assistant Director of Library Engagement, Korie Worth, Business Manager, Shanelle Robinson, Marketing Coordinator

Review of Minutes: The August minutes were reviewed. Wade made a motion to approve the minutes and Gall seconded the motion. The board approved the minutes unanimously.

Public Comments: There was no public comment.

Communications: Director Beasley presented the August statistics to the board. Assistant Director Rose presented the Lions Pride newsletter.

Bills and Invoices and Financial Report: The bills and invoices for August were presented to the board. Burkes motioned to approve the bills and invoices for the library and Brewer seconded. The board approved unanimously. The August Kankakee Events Partnership bills and invoices were presented. Gall motioned to approve and Burkes seconded. The board approved unanimously.

Director's Report: Director Beasley reported the following: The library received another property tax reimbursement. The elevator needed an additional repair; once this is complete the internal compliance updates can continue. Supervisor Bass has been conducting interviews to fill the open position in the Youth Services department. Ken Kesicki has resigned his full-time position at the library. Director Beasley announced KPL is going to hire two or three substitute employees who will be trained at each public service desk and will be called in as needed. The departments are busy planning programming for Hispanic Heritage Month.

Unfinished Business: There was no unfinished business.

New Business: The board was presented with a new policy for dress guidelines for the public that was created by the policy committee. Burkes inquired about the judgement of vulgar/inappropriate language; Director Beasley replied that it will ultimately be her judgement on what is deemed inappropriate. Wade motioned to approve the dress guidelines and Burkes seconded. The board approved the dress guidelines unanimously. The staff requested the board approve an early closing on Friday, October 24th at 4pm in order to prepare for the haunted house inside the library. Gall motioned to approve the early closing and Burkes seconded. The board approved unanimously.

Executive Session: An executive session was needed. Brewer motioned to go into executive session and Burkes seconded. K. Worth and S. Robinson left. Brewer made motion to come out of executive session and Wade seconded.

Burkes motioned to adjourn at 7:12pm. Minutes respectfully submitted by Korie Worth.