

**Kankakee Public Library February 17<sup>th</sup>, 2026  
Board Meeting Minutes**

The meeting of the Kankakee Public Library Board of Trustees began at 5:29pm.

**ROLL CALL:**

**Present:** Vena Burkes, Mike Gall, Bruce Conway, Ruth Hatcher, Bonnie Brewer, Elizabeth Barbosa

**Absent:** Geraldine Adams

**Also present were:** Allison Beasley, Library Director, Camille Rose, Assistant Director of Library Engagement, Vicki Forquer, Assistant Director of Library Resources, Shanelle Robinson, Marketing Coordinator/Business Manager

**Review of Minutes:** The January minutes were reviewed. Burkes made a motion to approve the minutes and Hatcher seconded the motion. The board approved the minutes unanimously.

**Public Comment:** There was no public comment.

**Communications:** Director Beasley presented the January statistics to the board, along with the Lions Pride staff newsletter. A request from Cornerstone Services to enter a partnership with the library was also presented. Conway mentioned that the library has been listed as a warming center in community posts even though library is not officially a warming center. Director Beasley stated that the library is always open to the public during operational hours if people need to warm up they can during those hours.

**Bills and Invoices and Financial Report:** The library bills and invoices for January were presented to the board. Director Beasley noted that the library is 83% through the fiscal year, with about 85% spent. Burkes motioned to approve the bills and invoices for the library, Gall seconded. The board approved unanimously. The January Kankakee Events Partnership bills and invoices were presented. Brewer motioned to approve the bills and invoices for the events partnership, and Barbosa seconded. The board approved unanimously.

**Director's Report:** Director Beasley reported the following: The library received the annual CAM (Common Area Maintenance) bill from Heritage Development totaling \$83,000. The bill is based on work done on the building, due to that being the case there is no way to budget for the cost. Gall asked if a cap was provided by Heritage and if the bill gives a line item breakdown. Director Beasley stated that there is no cap provided, and that the bill does come with a line item breakdown. Beasley also stated that the rent will hopefully be negotiated when the lease is up. Circulation Supervisor Thompson has hired Rhiannon Stringer for the Outreach Coordinator position. Adult Services is in the process of hiring two part-timers. Taste of Soul has been well attended along with the other Black History Month programs all floors have put together.

**Unfinished Business:** Updated wording for the federal holiday closing policy from last month was presented. Gall motioned to approve the wording, and Barbosa seconded. The board approved unanimously.

**New Business:** A request to close for a full day for a staff in-service on April 17<sup>th</sup> was presented. The date was amended to April 10<sup>th</sup>. Hatcher motioned to approve and Burkes seconded. The board approved unanimously.

**Executive Session:** There was no executive session.

Burkes motioned to adjourn at 5:57pm. Minutes respectfully submitted by Shanelle Robinson.