

Agenda Item #4 (b)

**Library Board of Trustees
Minutes of Meeting**

**The Julia F. Burnham 3rd Floor Conference Room • Main Library • 200 W. Green Street • Champaign
February 18, 2026**

1. The meeting was called to order at 5:32 p.m. by President Blakeman.
2. Members present: Daly Andersson, Katie Blakeman, Charlisa Hart, Michael Foellmer, Michael La Due, Charles Lansford, Minnie Pearson, and Chaya Sandler

Members absent: Rajeev Malik

Library staff present: Brittany Millington, Iris Ashby, Amy Al-Shabibi, Tricia Duzan, Larry Damski, Nicole Eveland, Mara Fass, Lauren Gardiner, Salem Gebil, Terry Goode, Kristina Hoerner, Tara Komnick, Rebecca Knaur, Linda Kuperschmid, Sam Lechowicz, Thea Green, Michelle Morrison, Catherine Purcell, Heather Sheahan, Ari Sterling, Jennifer Sutton, and Linda Wessels

Visitors present: Becky Allen, Rachel Loftus, and Yolanda Woods
3. Approve the Agenda:
 - MOTION by Andersson to approve the agenda as presented; seconded by La Due. All: Aye.
4. Approve the Minutes:
 - a. Regular Meeting Minutes, November 19, 2025
 - b. Closed Session Minutes, November 19, 2025
 - MOTION by Lansford to approve both sets of minutes as presented; seconded by La Due. All: Aye.
5. Director's Report:
 - a. 150th Anniversary Programs and Events (Salem Gebil, Marketing Manager)
 - Gebil provided an overview of the programs and events this year.
6. Early Closing Request for Thursday, October 8, 2026:
 - MOTION by La Due to approve closing the Main Library and Douglass Branch at 5 pm on Thursday, October 8, 2026, for setup for the Great Author Program as presented; seconded by Pearson. All: Aye.

7. Biannual Review of Closed Sessions, as required by 5 ILCS 120/2.06(c):
 - La Due recommended that no closed minutes should be released at this time.
 - Roll call vote was obtained.
 - MOTION by Sandler to approve the recommendation to retain the confidential closed minutes as discussed; seconded by Andersson. All: Aye.
8. Financial Reports:
 - a. Approve Check Register for January 2026:
 - MOTION by Lansford to file the check register for January 2026 as presented; seconded by Pearson. All: Aye.
 - b. FY2025/26 Financial Statements for January 2026:
 - MOTION by La Due to accept the January 2026 financials as presented; seconded by Sandler. All: Aye.
9. Committee and Liaison Reports:
 - a. Champaign Public Library Foundation:
 - Lansford reported that the Foundation Finance committee met and all is going well. The Foundation Board will meet next month.
 - b. City Council:
 - Foellmer provided an overview of the council meeting.
 - c. Friends of the Champaign Public Library:
 - La Due reported that the Friends continue to be excited for the 150th anniversary.
10. Comments from the Audience:
 - Linda Kupferschmid of Mahomet addressed the Board.
11. Comments from the Board:
 - Blakeman stated now that the union has been certified and we look forward to a positive and collective bargaining process.
 - Lansford commented on the nice comments on the 150th anniversary.
 - Pearson commented on the high quality of books given to children.

12. Next Meetings or Events:

- Regular Meeting, March 25, 2026, 5:30 p.m., Douglass Branch Library, 504 E. Grove St., C
- Regular Meeting, April 15, 2026, 5:30 p.m., Burnham 3rd Floor Conf. Room, Main Library
- Regular Meeting, May 20, 2026, 5:30 p.m., Burnham 3rd Floor Conf. Room, Main Library

13. Adjournment:

- MOTION by Foellmer to adjourn at 6:13 p.m., seconded by Hart. All: Aye.

Respectfully submitted,

Katie Blakeman, President

Michael La Due, Secretary

Tricia Duzan, Recorder