

## **MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING May 19, 2026**

The regular monthly meeting of the Spokane Public Library Board of Trustees was held on Tuesday, May 19, 2026, in person at Hillyard Library.

Present were:

### **MEMBERS**

Ms. Shelby Lambdin  
Ms. Dani DeJaegher  
Ms. Mari Margil  
Ms. Alexi Castilla - Absent  
Ms. Kris Dinnison

### **COUNCIL LIASION**

Councilmember Kate Telis

### **LIBRARY DIRECTOR**

Mr. Andrew Chanse

### **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 4:30pm by Ms. Lambdin.

### **VISITORS**

Skyler Noble  
Nicole Edwards  
Amanda Donovan  
Alina Murcar  
Denise Neujahr  
Andrew Chanse  
Vanessa Strange  
Amy Burchell  
Charles Hansen  
Jennie Anderson  
Coleen Louise  
Ashley Lock  
Brenda Kochis  
Jason Johnson  
Natalie Hilderbrand

### **CHANGES TO THE AGENDA**

Ms. DeJaegher moved to approve the agenda as presented. Ms. Dinnison seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

### **APPROVAL OF APRIL 21, 2026 MEETING MINUTES**

Ms. DeJaegher moved to approve the minutes as presented. Ms. Dinnison seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

## **APPROVAL OF APRIL 2026 BILLS & CONTRIBUTIONS**

Ms. Dinnison moved to approve the motion. Ms. DeJaegher seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

## **FINANCIAL REPORT**

Ms. Edwards reported there were 26 days of operating costs in available cash and investments. April balance is at \$2,815,237 which includes reserve for capital. Ms. Edwards shared expenditure trends from April, and total April expenses were \$1,306,138. Ms. Edwards highlighted the difference between April 2025 and present and that is due to the Lyngsoe contract and the interfund charges increasing from an additional charge.

Business Office News: The Washington State Clean Buildings Act took effect, and Ms. Edwards has attended related informational meetings. She explained which buildings will need to meet compliance standards and what needs to happen next. Ms. Edwards planned to apply for a financial hardship exemption as the library finances cannot accommodate additional capital investment charges to meet compliance until we can get to our next levy lid lift. Conversations about 2027-2028 budget were underway.

### Questions & Answers

- Ms. Margil asked if there are state funding opportunities to come to public buildings. Ms. Edwards explained there is not.
- Ms. Lambdin asked if we would charge for the energy auditor for clean buildings. Ms. Edwards confirmed and that the City hired an auditor, but the charge for Central was \$60,000 and that we would not partake in that until a later year and outside of the City's contract. The library would search for their own.
- Ms. Lambdin asked about updates on the EPA grant and if that would assist. Ms. Edwards explained there are not any updates or plans to move forward around EPA at this time. Mr. Chanse explained that it was mostly for solar energy and it could help in small amounts if re-activated.
- No further questions

## **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

None

## **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Mr. Chanse reported on the meetings and presentations he attended in April. In DEI work, the next book club will discuss *The Anti-Ableist Manifesto* and there was a blog about AA&NHPI Month and Mental Health Awareness Month. Hillyard would be closed Sunday and Monday for carpet cleaning and Memorial Day. Library of Things items moved to a two-week check out period. STAR Spotlight went to Matthew Giron for going above his daily work tasks. Mr. Chanse highlighted the Friends of the Spokane Public Library and the success of their recent book sale.

## **COUNCIL LIAISON REPORT**

Councilmember Telis met with Mr. Chanse to cover budget conversations. No further comment.

## **COMMUNICATIONS REPORT**

Ms. Donovan shared highlights from the month of April including the updates to the library's website to meet ADA WCAG accessibility guidelines. A new newsletter was introduced to share "Books of the Moment" to curate booklists around pop culture themes. Ms. Noble worked on Summer Reading Club preparations. Ms. Murcar attended a variety of community outreach events including a Spokane Regional Health District event to discuss library topics. Earned media and website highlights included the Friends of the Library Book Sale, National Library Week, budget topics, Indian Trail Plant Swap blog, and more. Social media highlights were covered. Ms. Donovan covered the results from the Library Impact: Illustrated campaign.

#### Question & Answer

- Ms. Margil asked if the library would maintain the items in the Bonfire store for people to purchase. Ms. Amanda confirmed and explained that other items will be added eventually.
- No further questions

#### **PROGRAMMING REPORT**

Mr. Johnson reported that the programming team had 468 programs in April and shared the impact score and highlights from the month. Over 5,000 people attended programs. There were 281 one-on-one sessions and consults. Mr. Johnson covered programming highlights including Mason Neil's sewing program, Print Fest at The Hive, 3D printing events, Hope in the Community in partnership with RICS, among many others.

#### Question & Answer

- Ms. DeJaegher asked if Ms. Bakken is leaving the library. Ms. Neujahr explained she will be moving onto another job.
- No further questions.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

##### **13A. Summer Reading Club 2026 Overview**

Ms. Noble and Ms. Neujahr presented on the Summer Reading Club offerings for kids, teens, and adults. The logistics of the challenge and calendar of events were covered.

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The board was dismissed for an executive session about personnel for a period of 15 minutes at 5:13pm. The executive session was extended for a period of five minutes to 5:35pm. The meeting was recalled into session at 5:38pm.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

The public had the option to email [trustee@spokanepubliclibrary.org](mailto:trustee@spokanepubliclibrary.org) with any comments.

#### **NEXT REGULAR MEETING**

The next regular meeting will be Tuesday, June 16, 2026. Location will be at Indian Trail Library.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**



The meeting adjourned at 5:38pm.

Secretary

Andrew

Chairman, Board of Trustees

Bob Lohr

Date

6/16/20