



REGULAR MEETING OF THE SHOREWOOD LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Wednesday, May 13, 2026
Meeting Minutes

Present:

- Vice President Kara Espera
- Trustee Anjum Alden
- Trustee Scott Gronert
- Trustee Wesley Warren (5:53 PM)
- Shorewood School District Superintendent Dr. Laurie Burgos
- Director of Library Services Hayley Johnson
- Assistant Director Noah Weckwerth
- Kim Schultz, Greater Milwaukee Foundation
- Friends of the Shorewood Public Library President Mary Armstrong

Excused:

- President Jonathan Smucker
- Library Office Manager/Confidential Secretary Angela Andre

Call to Order: Vice President Espera called the meeting to order at 5:33 PM.

Statement of Public Notice: Vice President Espera confirmed that the meeting was properly noticed according to law.

Public Comment: None

Consent Agenda: Superintendent Burgos moved to approve the agenda, the minutes from the April 8, 2026 meeting, and accounts payable reports. Trustee Gronert seconded, and the motion carried by a vote of 4-0.

INFORMATION – Greater Milwaukee Foundation Annual Update

Kim Schultz, Philanthropic Adviser from the Greater Milwaukee Foundation (GMF), shared updates on GMF and the library's Board Directed Fund, the Permanent Endowment Fund, and the 2040 Fund. She also shared GMF's investment philosophy, and how GMF compares nationally to other non-profit groups. Ms. Schultz also shared that GMF moved to Marquette Associates as their new investment consultant.

INFORMATION – Library Statistics

INFORMATION – Director of Library Services Report

STAFF UPDATE

Library Clerk Dan Holt resigned on Saturday, April 11, 2026. His last day was Saturday, May 2, 2026. Some of Dan's hours were reallocated, moving all of part-time clerks (except for one 17-hour a week clerk) to 15 hours a week.

SHOREWOOD READS IN THE NEWS

The Shorewood Reads 2026 program Behind the Smiles: Understanding Angelman Syndrome was featured on CBS 58 on Wednesday, April 14, 2026.

NEW LIBRARY WEBSITE

Shorewood Public Library's current website launched in 2013. Director of Library Services Hayley Johnson, Assistant Director Noah Weckwerth, and Virtual Engagement Librarian Megan Lohrenz will take the lead on designing a new website. A Request for Proposals will be shared with the board for review.

NEW LIBRARY DATABASE

Starting Friday, May 15, 2026, all Milwaukee County patrons will have access to Peterson's Test and Career Prep. This online study and exam-preparation platform will help users prepare for standardized tests, licensing exams, and career certifications. Milwaukee County Federated Library System (MCFLS) is paying for system-wide access to the platform.

UNEARTH A STORY

Summer reading programs for all ages kick off on Tuesday, May 26, 2026. This year's theme is Unearth a Story. The program includes a number of activities, events, and reading challenges. All three of the summer reading programs are sponsored by the Friends of the Shorewood Public Library.

The library is hosting a Summer Reading Kick-Off Party on Monday, June 15, 2026 from 10:00 AM-12:00 PM. Readers are invited to stop by to sign-up for the challenges, go on a dinosaur hunt, and earn a fun surprise.

VILLAGE OF SHOREWOOD TURNS OFF SOCIAL MEDIA COMMENTS

At the Monday, May 4, 2026 Village of Shorewood Board of Trustees meeting, trustees voted 3-2 to turn off comments on village social media accounts. The Village Attorney advised that the village either allow all comments to remain without selective removal or disable comments entirely on its social media platforms.

FRIENDS OF THE SHOREWOOD PUBLIC LIBRARY UPDATE

- On Monday, April 18, 2026, Friends of the Shorewood Public Library volunteers dropped an assortment of treats off for library team members to enjoy.
- The Friends of the Shorewood Public Library will present and propose grant funding to the full Friends board for approval at their Wednesday, June 17, 2026 meeting. This will give time for the Shorewood Public Library Board of Trustees to accept the gift prior to 2027 budget planning.

SOUTH MILWAUKEE PUBLIC LIBRARY REFERENDUM

South Milwaukee voters approved a \$425,000 referendum, which will increase operating hours, materials, and programming and services.

INFORMATION – 2026 Q1 Financial Report

Director Johnson shared the 2026 Q1 financial report. The Shorewood Senior Resource Center and library are considering upgrades to the Village Center Meeting Room, and want to get an idea of funding commitments before starting the 2027 budget.

INFORMATION – Susan M. VanDenBerg Memorial Donation Update

Director Johnson shared documentation from the Greater Milwaukee Foundation (GMF) that the \$64,690.57 donated by Susan M. VanDenBerg was deposited in the GMF Board Directed Fund. A sample bookplate was shared, and will be included in mystery books purchased with GMF funds.

ACTION – FE Technologies Live Scanning Wand Funding Proposal

Assistant Director Noah Weckwerth shared a funding proposal for an FE Technologies Live Scanning Wand (LSW). The LSW would ensure that all of our items are properly checked in and available, prevent other libraries' items from making it to our shelves, and keep our collection in the correct order.

MOTION: Trustee Gronert moved to allocate \$4,232 from the Restricted - Enhanced Operations Fund Balance for the FE Technologies Live Scanning Wand. Trustee Warren seconded, and the motion carried by a vote of 5-0.

INFORMATION – Percussion Play Butterfly Outdoor Instrument Strategic Initiative Proposal

Director Johnson shared the Percussion Play Butterfly Outdoor Instrument Strategic Initiative Proposal that was submitted to the Village of Shorewood for review. Shorewood Public Library has a long history of raising and releasing monarch butterflies, and is a founding partner of the Shorewood Monarch Project.

ACTION – Shorewood Public Library Board of Trustees Communication Process

Shorewood Public Library Board of Trustees discussed the best way for the public to communicate with the board. Trustees concluded that communication should be transparent and consistent with Wisconsin Open Meetings Law.

Director Johnson provided the following draft language for review:

To contact the Shorewood Public Library Board of Trustees, please direct your inquiry to the Director of Library Services who serves as the primary point of communication between the public and the board, or the Village of Shorewood Manager's Office. Please include all relevant details, supporting information, and contact information to ensure your message can be properly reviewed and addressed.

In addition, members of the public may address the Shorewood Public Library Board of Trustees directly during the Public Comment portion of a regularly scheduled meeting. The Public Comment process is described in IV, Section 9 of the Shorewood Public Library Board of Trustees Bylaws.

MOTION: Trustee Gronert moved to approve the inclusion of the proposed public communication process language on the “Library Board” page of the Shorewood Public Library website as presented. Trustee Warren seconded, and the motion carried by a vote of 5-0.

INFORMATION – Nominating Committee Report

The Shorewood Public Library Board of Trustees Nominating Committee met on Thursday, May 7, 2026 to review term reappointments and applications for the vacant trustee position. President Smucker, Vice President Espera, and Trustee Alden agreed to serve another three-year term.

There were seven applications for the vacant trustee position. The Nominating Committee will share their recommendation with the Village of Shorewood Judiciary, Personnel and Licensing Committee.

INFORMATION - Trustee Essentials Handbook Chapter 3: *Organizing the Board for Effective Action*

Items for Future Consideration

- Shorewood Public Library Social Media Policy
- Shorewood Village Center Meeting Room Usage Report

INFORMATION CLOSED SESSION – Director of Library Services Performance Evaluation

At 6:37 PM, the Shorewood Public Library Board of Trustees moved into closed session to discuss the Director of Library Services performance evaluation.

The Shorewood Public Library Board of Trustees reserves the right to adjourn into closed session under the provisions of sec. 19.85(1)(c), Stats., for the purpose of discussing employment, promotion, compensation, and performance evaluation of employees. The board reserves the right to reconvene into open session under the provisions of section 19.85(2) Stats.

The Shorewood Public Library Board of Trustees moved out of closed session at 6:52 PM.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 6:52 PM.

Recorded and submitted by Director of Library Services Hayley Johnson
on the 18th day of May 2026