



REGULAR MEETING OF THE SHOREWOOD LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Wednesday, July 8, 2026
Meeting Minutes

Present:

- President Jonathan Smucker
- Vice President Kara Espera
- Trustee Anjum Alden
- Trustee Mary Armstrong
- Trustee Scott Gronert
- Director of Library Services Hayley Johnson
- Assistant Director Noah Weckwerth
- Library Office Manager/Confidential Secretary Angela Andre

Excused:

- Trustee Wesley Warren
- Shorewood School District Superintendent Dr. Laurie Burgos

Call to Order: President Smucker called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM.

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

Consent Agenda: Vice President Espera moved to approve the agenda, the minutes from the June 10, 2026 meeting, and accounts payable reports. Trustee Alden seconded, and the motion carried by a vote of 5-0.

INFORMATION – New Trustee Introduction

Mary Armstrong was appointed to the Shorewood Public Library Board of Trustees, and is transitioning from her role as President of the Friends of the Shorewood Public Library. She stated that she is pleased and honored to be serving the library in a new way.

INFORMATION – Trustee Term Chart

INFORMATION – Committee Appointments

Committee assignments are as follows:

Finance Committee – Trustee Gronert (chair), Trustee Warren, and President Smucker

Nominating Committee – Trustee Alden (chair) and Trustee Gronert

Personnel Committee – Vice President Espera (chair), Trustee Alden, and Trustee Armstrong

INFORMATION – Library Statistics

INFORMATION – Director of Library Services Report

STAFF UPDATES

Library clerk Carolyn Curran was promoted to the 20-hour a week clerk position, and Emeline Heimos was hired for the 15-hour a week clerk position.

LIBRARY CARD DIGITAL SIGNATURES NO LONGER REQUIRED

On Thursday, June 4, 2026, the Milwaukee County Library Director Advisory Council voted to remove digital signatures for all patron records. On Wednesday, June 17, 2026, all patron records had digital signatures removed, and system settings were updated so no new signatures could be added.

STRATEGIC INITIATIVES UPDATE

At the Monday, June 1, 2026 meeting, the Village of Shorewood Board of Trustees gave support for the library to proceed with the two strategic initiatives presented: the outdoor butterfly musical instruments and the StoryWalk® at Hubbard Park. These projects will be implemented in 2027.

AMERICA 250 COMMUNITY CONVERSATION

To celebrate America 250, Shorewood Public Library will host Chief Judge Pamela Pepper for an event titled, “We Hold These Truths to be Self-Evident: A Conversation About the *Declaration of Independence*.” Chief Judge Pepper will participate in an interactive community discussion centered on select grievances from the *Declaration of Independence*. The discussion will be held on Thursday, August 20, 2026 at 6:00 PM.

THE POWER OF SAYING NO

On Wednesday, July 8, 2026, Shorewood Public Library full-time staff started an ongoing book discussion featuring [*The Power of Saying No: The New Science of How to Say No that Puts You in Charge of Your Life* by Vanessa Patrick](#).

STAFF MOVIE NIGHT AND TEAM T-SHIRTS

On Friday, July 17, 2026 all Shorewood Public Library team members are invited to Staff Movie Night. Staff Movie Night will start after the library closes at 6:30 PM, and will feature the 2004 comedy *Napoleon Dynamite*. This event is an optional, unpaid event that will feature Chapstick, friendship bracelets, a tater tot bar, and the unveiling of the 2026 staff t-shirt designed by Library Office Manager and Confidential Secretary Angela Andre.

FRIENDS OF THE SHOREWOOD PUBLIC LIBRARY UPDATE

At the Wednesday, June 17, 2026 meeting, the Friends of the Shorewood Public Library approved a funding proposal for additional Early Learning Center upgrades. The new features include a Conveyor (\$300) and an Indoor Magnet Wall (\$1,550).

LAKE BLUFF AND THE SMITHSONIAN CELEBRATE 250 IN THE NEWS

On Thursday, June 4, 2026 sixth grade Lake Bluff students held a grand opening ceremony for two projects created in a virtual exchange program through the [Smithsonian Democracy in Dialogue Virtual Exchange Initiative](#). The mural and quilt projects will be on display in library's children's room throughout June.

SUMMER CELEBRATION REMINDER

Shorewood Public Library's Summer Celebration returns on Thursday, July 23, 2026 from 6:00-8:00 PM. The event includes all of the traditional favorites – balloons and bubbles; custard and popsicles; the Milwaukee Brewers Racing Sausages; popcorn, trolley rides, and more. This year, the library welcomes a new face into the fold – Sawdust. Sawdust is a miniature therapy horse who is ready for pets, pictures, and plenty of smiles.

WISCONSIN TRUSTEE TRAINING WEEK 2026

Registration for Wisconsin Trustee Training Week 2026 is now open, and more information can be found [HERE](#). Wisconsin Trustee Training Week will be held Monday, August 10-13, 2026. Recorded sessions and training materials are also made available for later viewing.

INFORMATION – Request for Proposals Process

In light of upcoming initiatives and projects which will require contracted services, Director Johnson reviewed information about Village of Shorewood policies concerning requests for proposal (RFP) and trustee input. It was suggested that RFPs could be evaluated by a team that may include some trustees. Trustees present agreed that staff will do the bulk of the work for RFPs and contractor selection, and come to the board with a recommendation.

ACTION – Staff Development Day Closure

After describing a proposed workshop, Director Johnson proposed closing the library from 9:30 AM to 6:30 PM on Friday, December 4, 2026 so that staff, both part-time and full-time, are able to fully participate in this professional development training opportunity. Scheduled staff will be expected to attend while it will be highly encouraged for non-scheduled staff to participate. All staff will be compensated for their time.

MOTION: Vice President Espera moved to close Shorewood Public Library on Friday, December 4, 2026 from 9:30 AM to 6:30 PM so that library staff may fully participate in a facilitated professional development opportunity. The motion was seconded by Trustee Gronert and approved unanimously after a vote of 5-0.

ACTION - Social Media Policy

On Monday, May 4, 2026, Village of Shorewood Board of Trustees voted 3-2 to turn off comments on village social media accounts. The decision was made after a number of offensive, unrelated comments were made. In response, 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.

The Village of Shorewood policy change does not apply to the Shorewood Public Library's Social Media Policy.

On Wednesday, June 10, 2026, the Shorewood Public Library Board of Trustees voted to amend Shorewood Public Library's Social Media Policy to adopt the Village of Shorewood's social media comment management practices, and that comments be disabled on all library-managed social media platforms until such policy amendments are formally adopted and implemented.

The trustees reviewed the proposed updates to the library's social media policy.

MOTION: Vice President Espera moved to adopt the revised Social Media Policy as presented. Trustee Alden seconded, and the motion carried by a vote of 5-0.

MOTION: Trustee Gronert moved to disable comments on all Shorewood Public Library managed social media platforms. Trustee Armstrong seconded, and the motion carried by a vote of 5-0.

ACTION: Friends of the Shorewood Public Library 2027 Grant

At their June 17, 2026 meeting, the Friends of the Shorewood Public Library approved \$39,725.00 to enhance library collections, programming, and other initiatives in 2027, including \$5,500.00 for three new initiatives manga collection support, read-along book collection support, and funding to start a Yoto Card collection.

Per the [Gift and Donation Policy](#), all monetary gifts over \$500.00 require acceptance by the Shorewood Public Library Board of Trustees.

MOTION: Trustee Armstrong moved to accept the Friends of the Shorewood Public Library's grant of \$38,950.00 as presented in their 2027 budget. Vice President Espera seconded, and the motion carried by a vote of 5-0.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 6:36 PM.

Recorded and submitted by Library Office Manager/Confidential Secretary Angela Andre
on the 10th day of June 2026