

**NIPPERSINK PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT
BOARD OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING
April 14, 2026; MINUTES
at the Library 5418 Hill Rd, Richmond, IL**

CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Library Trustees of Nippersink Public Library District at the Nippersink Library called to order at 7:01 p.m. by President Knobloch.

PRESENT

President Drew Knobloch, Trustees Heather Evenson, Theresa Sue Rekenhaller, Keith Schleiffer, Jean Leete-Knutson, Michelle Jordan, and Library Director Fanslow were present.

Vice-President Brett Bieder, excused.

RECOGNITION OF SECRETARY

Trustee Evenson was recognized as secretary. Staff member Nielson volunteered to act as recorder.

RECOGNITION OF MEMBERS OF THE AUDIENCE

Yoni Nielson, Assistant to the Director
Ash Lee Simons, Youth Services Manager
Kristine Ozyuk, Adult Services and Circulation Manager

AUDIENCE COMMENTS

None.

ADDITIONS

None.

MINUTES

- a. Approve March 10, 2026, Regular Meeting Minutes
Motion was made by Trustee Evenson, Second by Trustee Rekenhaller, to approve the March 10, 2026, Regular Meeting Minutes.
Voice Vote: All in Favor
MOTION PASSES

CORRESPONDENCE AND LIBRARY NEWS

a. Correspondence

i. Patron comments

“Completed Makerspace Survey and let us know she would like to learn how to rewire a lamp. Will offer YouTube videos as a suggestion?! – Nomi E.

Loves all the new things we are doing. Puzzle exchange! Book sale is great. Misses Book Page but explained she can view online. She likes that the new staff is getting to know her by name again.
– Tracy A.

Absolutely loves the Rebecca Yarros book that Barb picked for her. This is a new author Barb chose for this patron. She said that she did something she had not done in a long time which is to skip to the end of the book to see what happens! She had a spark in her eye; it was wonderful to see her so excited about this new author.
– Phyllis K. (Homebound Patron)

Loves all the things we do in spite of being a small library. She enjoys the positive energy staff bring into the building as well as the new paint in in-person programming. – Noreen H.”

b. Articles and News

Discussions and questions regarding the articles and news submitted.

- i. ‘Dangerous’ bill inviting government censorship passes House committee- ALA
- ii. ii. Reminder of updated Web Accessibility Requirements- Ancel Glink
- iii. Tennessee library director fired after refusing to move LGBTQ+-themed kids’ books to adult section- the Guardian
- iv. White House FY27 budget proposal repeats threats to eliminate IMLS- ALA
- v. Trump administration withdraws appeal, securing historic victory for libraries and IMLS- ALA
- vi. ALA and AFSCME Prevail in Fight to Protect Libraries and Museums Nationwide- ALA
- vii. 2025 Annual Report- RAILS

TREASURER'S REPORT

- a. Review and Approve Warrant #10 in the amount of \$41,029.10
Motion was made by Trustee Evenson, Second by Trustee Schleiffer to approve the Warrant #10 in the amount of \$41,029.10. Roll call Vote: Ayes: Knobloch, Evenson, Rekenenthaler, Schleiffer, Leete-Knutson, Jordan.
Nays: None.
Absent: Beider
MOTION PASSES

- b. Review of monthly budget report

Director Fanslow updates the Board of the expenses: library and building operations, trustee expenses, capital equipment, library materials, outside professional services, and personnel.

SPECIAL REPORTS

Library Director

Director Fanslow updated the Board on the RAILS newsletter, March financial reports, library statistics, reference activity, program participation, new library cards (38), mobile app usage, circulation, and e-resources.

Director Fanslow provided building and operations updates, including elevator, HVAC, and cleaning contract proposals, FY26/27 project planning, and thanked the Richmond Township Road District for installing the new flag.

Director Fanslow updated the Board on the construction grant final stage, insurance renewal, Makerspace survey results (100 responses), legislative updates, Trustee Training, Library Appreciation Week programming, and PLA 2026.

Director Fanslow reported on the new Patron Services Clerk position, Library Wish List discussion planned for May, the new anonymous Staff Suggestion Form, and completion of all Statement of Economic Interest filings.

Director Fanslow shared professional updates, including her nomination as ILA Advocacy Chair through June 2028, appointment to the PrairieCat Administrative Council, and upcoming speaking engagements with ARSL, NCompass, and ALA.

Library Board President

No report.

Strategic Planning

The Board reviewed the strategic planning email link and held discussion.

Adult Services

Ozyuk reported that Nadia and Joseph joined the staff. The Large Print weeding project is complete, and Books on CD weeding has begun. Program attendance continues to increase, pantry and fridge usage remain steady, nearly 100 AARP appointments were held, the seed library has been well received, and Q4 programming is in development.

Youth Services

Simons reported that Joseph will assist Youth Services on Mondays, Fridays, and Saturdays, particularly during Dungeons & Dragons programs. The Library Lovers Expedition had approximately 2,739 participants, including 61 from NPLD. Summer and Summer Reading planning is underway, and the collections budget is expected to be fully spent by the end of June.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS (All possible action items)

- a. Library Trustee Forum Spring Webinar Discussion
Board of Trustee discussion about the Financial Trustee webinar.

NEW BUSINESS (All possible action items)

- a. HVAC & Elevator Contracts
Moved to next meeting.

TRUSTEE TRAINING

- a. Local Rules of Procedure Part 4 – iLead Portal

ADJOURN

There being no further business, President Knobloch declared the meeting adjourned at 8:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Dana Fanslow

Secretary Evenson