

**NIPPERSINK PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT
BOARD OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING
August 11, 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 6:30 p.m. by President Knobloch.

PRESENT

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

Vice-President Brett Bieder is 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 July 14, 2026, Regular Meeting Minutes
**Motion was made by Trustee Evenson, Second by Trustee Jordan,
to approve the July 14, 2026, Regular Meeting Minutes.
Voice Vote: All in Favor
MOTION PASSES**

CORRESPONDENCE AND LIBRARY NEWS

- a. Correspondence
 - i. Patron Comments

Said we are knocking it out of the park with all our awesome programs and offerings. Krystine F.

A returning patron, visiting the library again after many years, shared how grateful they were for the programs and services available and commented on how impressed they were with the team's outstanding service and kindness. - Anne C

Met her at an outreach event-Spring grove Farmers Market. She is very impressed with the improvements at NPLD! - Deb

Emily said we are her FAVORITE library in the area. She moved to Spring Grove from Johnsburg, also lived in Woodstock previously. - Emily K

As a former employee and a patron, she LOVES all the positive changes: space, shelving, collection, newsletter. The new staff are friendly and helpful. She was impressed at how easy it is for us to fax! - Alicia S

Had a patron and their child come in and say they had a very positive experience upstairs, especially with the art projects we had. So much so they donated \$5 to us for craft supplies. - Anonymous Patron

This has been a wonderful experience! I had not been to your library before and am extremely impressed by the kindness, patience, and welcoming support of Cindy, Jon, Elizabeth and Ash Lee! What a wonderful staff! I look forward to returning with my grandson. Thank you for a lovely experience! - Jan

They like the new hold shelf and how it tied in with shelf checkout, but were sort of overwhelmed by the amount of papers and rubberbands. They thought that there needed to be a place to take care of that, like a table to set items down to scan and a place to dispose of rubberbands and receipts in the event staff is busy. - Anonymous Patron"

- b. Articles and News
 - Discussions and questions regarding the articles and news submitted.
 - i. Communications Toolkit- Messaging the E-Books Crisis: A Communications Toolkit for ULC Libraries- Urban Libraries Council
 - ii. Public Library Services for Strong Communities Report- Public Library Association
 - iii. Commission on Government Forecasting and Accountability: Monthly Briefing for the Month Ended: July 2026- IL Commission on Government Forecasting & Accountability

- iv. Public Comment Policy Overly Broad and Vague Under First Amendment- Ancel Glink
- v. National Book Ban Bill Introduced in Senate Committee- Publishers Weekly
- vi. Appeals Court Rules in Favor of City in Challenge to Firefighter's Termination for Social Media Posts- Ancel Glink
- vii. PAC Finds Public Body in Violation of OMA Because Agenda Description Was Not Sufficient- Ancel Glink
- viii. Archivists: Closure of Chicago National Archives threatens our right to access history- WBEZ Chicago
- ix. Memorandum to RAILS: New Legislation Requiring Libraries to Post 9-8-8 Suicide Prevention Information- Ancel Glink
- x. Moving Beyond the Publisher Playbook: Why state-level contract law is essential to the future of digital library rights- Library Journal
- xi. PAC Finds Public Body in Violation of FOIA for Not Responding- Ancel Glink
- xii. The Librarians' and Library Workers' Bill of Rights- ALA
- xiii. Appeals court allows Arkansas to enforce law restricting library materials- Arkansas Advocate
- xiv. Joining of LIMRiCC and WIN- LIMRiCC

TREASURER'S REPORT

- a. Review and Approve Warrant #2 in the amount of \$37,373.95
Motion was made by Trustee Evenson, Second by Trustee Schleiffer to approve the Warrant #2 in the amount of \$37,373.95.
Roll call Vote: Ayes: Knobloch, Evenson, Rekenthaler, Schleiffer, Leete-Knutson, Jordan.
Nays: None.
Absent: Bieder
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 updates the Board on library statistics, including reference questions and time spent; program participation; new library cards (30); mobile app users; circulation of materials; and e-resource usage.

Director Fanslow updates the Board on Library operations:

- The Library has partnered with Helping Hands to install a clothing and shoe recycling bin in the rear parking lot. The Library will receive \$0.05 per pound of collected materials, with payments distributed quarterly.
- The Staff Breakroom is complete.
- Midwest Mechanical completed the Library's preventative HVAC maintenance.
- Summer Reading participation was slightly lower than last year. Staff will evaluate this year's program and begin planning for next year.
- The Staff Technology Competency Self-Assessment will be distributed at the end of the week to better understand each staff member's current technology skills and training needs. Results will help guide future All-Staff training topics and departmental professional development.

Director Fanslow informs the Board of the following upcoming community and outreach opportunities:

- Family Night at the McHenry Outdoor Theater – Friday, September 18
- Richmond Trunk or Treat – Saturday, October 10
- Spring Grove Trunk or Treat – Saturday, October 24

Library Board President

None.

Strategic Planning

An email link was sent before the Board Meeting and will be discussed on August Board Meeting.

Adult Services

Ozyuk reports that 75 items were added to the collection. Hold shelf self-service is active, and 150 items were processed through the self-checkout feature on the mobile app. Annual reviews for Circulation Staff have been completed.

Ozyuk reports that staff are exploring new ways to increase awareness and encourage patron participation in new programs, including First Friday Coffee Chats at 10:00 a.m. and a grief program on Mondays at 6:00 p.m.

Youth Services

Simons reports that Summer Reading participation decreased slightly from last year and all prizes have been distributed.

Simons reports on upcoming outreach and partnerships, including the NSD Resource Fair on August 26, an RGS first-grade field trip planned for September, and monthly Story times with Grace Lutheran Preschool.

Simons reports that a representative from NAMI attended the July Youth Services department meeting to share information about mental health resources available in McHenry County and discuss supporting young patrons through a trauma-informed approach.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS (All possible action items)

- a. Director & Trustee Reviews
Trustees review debrief.
- b. TK Elevator
Documents are included in the August packets and reviews by the Board of Trustees. Discussions and questions followed.

NEW BUSINESS (All possible action items)

- a. Trustee Election Information
President Knobloch, Trustees Evenson and Rekenthaler are up for re-election for the Consolidated General Election on April 6, 2027. Packets are available to be picked up on August 25. First day to file is November 16 and the last day to file petitions is November 23, 2026, at 5PM.

Trustee Theresa Sue Rekenthaler announced that she will not be running for another term.
- c. Ordinance No. 2026-8-1, Building and Maintenance Levy Ordinance
Motion was made by Trustee Jordan, Second by Trustee Leete-Knutson to adopt the Ordinance No. 2026-8-1, Building and Maintenance Levy Ordinance.
Roll call Vote: Ayes: Knobloch, Evenson, Rekenthaler, Schleiffer, Leete-Knutson, Jordan.
Nays: None.
Absent: Bieder
MOTION PASSES
- d. Ordinance No. 2026-9-1, Combined Annual Budget and Appropriation Ordinance Draft

e. HVAC repairs

A separate document online was sent to the Board of Trustees ahead of the Board Meeting.

Motion was made by Trustee Evenson, Second by Trustee Schleiffer to move forward with the four proposals from Midwest Mechanic in the amount of \$9,875.00 to address the HVAC repairs.

Roll call Vote: Ayes: Knobloch, Evenson, Rekenthaler, Schleiffer, Leete-Knutson, Jordan.

Nays: None.

MOTION PASSES

TRUSTEE TRAINING

- a. Communications Plan for your Library – iLead Portal

ADJOURN

There being no further business, President Knobloch declared the meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Dana Fanslow

Secretary Evenson