

**Kirkland Public Library
Board of Trustees Meeting
March 16, 2026**

Board present: Jean Bauer, Clare Hay, Sally Jones, Marian Termini, Lori Finkle, Colleen Olson

Board absent: Becky Lamont

Others present: Chris So, Rosie Reints

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 6:06 pm by Board President Bauer.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the February meeting were reviewed by all. Clare moved to approve the minutes and Colleen seconded. All were in favor.

Financial Report: Sally gave a review of the report since Tina Weaver was not present. The balance on February 28 was \$102,763.09. We received a refund of \$666.00 having to do with overpaying the premium for Workman's Comp and Liability insurance. Colleen motioned to approve the February financial report and Sally seconded. Report approved.

Director's Report: For February 2026, Chris's last director report.

- Eighty patrons visited the library and 145 items were checked out with 14 items requested through Sierra.
- Seven attended children's story time.
- One new library card issued.

No report on how many participated in winter reading program. "Mary is working on that" said somebody. Also no report on adult book club attendance. Sally moved to approve director's report and Clare seconded. All were in favor.

Old Business:

- a. **Plan of sale of library--** Jean relayed that she is getting a quote for the inspection which she will bring up under "new business". We still need a quote for insuring the building. Mary and Linda are supposed to fill something out for us to go forward with getting a quote. Chris said he will follow up with them. Jean suggested that we could perhaps ask the Village Board if we can simply agree to pay all expenses to do with the library and not have to go through with closing a sale. It was also suggested we have our lawyer present something with our agreement to pay for everything. The village would still own the library and would have no other requirements other than holding the deed. Marian offered to write something asking Village Board to consider this proposal. It would be given to the Village Clerk to share. If they agree, then we can present a legal form later. We talked a bit about getting email addresses for library staff or one for the library board.

Quote for inspection-- This topic was actually addressed later in the meeting under new business. Jean passed out the quote from "Brickkicker" inspection service - \$500. The money would come from our contingency fund and technical fund. She also presented a quote from the mold remediation contractor - \$1850. This involves a special spray. He suggested keeping dehumidifiers on and also using fans. We will find out if the treatment has to be repeated every so often. Some electrical downstairs is all new and some is old. Clare reminded that the inspection may give us direction as to the electrical. Jean repeated the quotes the village had gotten for the electrical. One was Swedberg, \$3,700, and one was Fritz, \$2,500. There was a third quote that Linda got for much less. Jean is going to call the mold guy to get some clarification. She relayed that mold guy checked the downstairs walls and thought they were in good shape. Mold guy will tentatively be scheduled for a Friday when we are closed. We talked about

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considering a battery back-up system. Marian made a motion to approve paying the inspection fee and mold remediation fee. Colleen seconded. All were in favor.

- b. Director's resignation-- Chris's last day is March 19. He has printed out the employee checks for Sally to sign.

New Business:

- a. Kirkland Lions' Easter Egg Hunt-- Scheduled for April 4. We are offering a story time before the hunt. Roxy Holtapp will read aloud.
Discussed whether we want to hand out bookmarks, prizes, books or something. The Lion's flyer indicates nothing about story time. Colleen offered to talk to elementary school principal about advertising story time at school somehow.
- b. Weeded book materials protocol-- Mary Holtrop sent an email in an effort to explain why it's done and where the books go. Jean suggested that if the books are going to the Sycamore library book sale, that doesn't benefit us at all. We agreed that we could have our own sale or use them for the little libraries though we have no place to store them. We could also put them in the Methodist Church rummage sale. We all notice ample shelf space around us where books might go. The books that Colleen asked to be ordered came in and were returned because "we already had them". Somebody changed the Amazon password. We as a board need to take steps in preventing the mixed messages between library employees and director. The director needs to assert himself/herself as the person "in-charge". Employees should not be undermining the director when they don't agree with a decision. Let the new director do his or her job. We understand moldy books having to be discarded. We agreed to put a ceiling on how many hours somebody can work outside of typical hours. Our budget is being affected by employees working hours outside of shifts covered. Extra time will be authorized by the board once presented by the director. Weeding of books can also be done by desk staff during regular shifts. Any sale we have would have to be offered by the Friends of the Library. We, as a library, cannot sell books. Our tax dollars pay for our books and should stay in Kirkland. We are considering getting special totes for the basement books. We can also share books with Kingston Library. They take books twice a year. After old and new business was finished, Chris left the building and we all said goodbye.
- c. Interview of Rosi Reints for director position-- Some comments about what we've learned from Chris's experience here and how some changes may need to be made. Chris recommended Rosie for the position. Sally sent the announcement for our position opening to several local libraries and Marian did the same with six college libraries. Commence Interview: A document of interview questions and answers can be obtained on request.

Executive Session: At about 7:36 pm of our regular board meeting, Jean suggested we go into executive session to discuss the candidate, Rosalie Reints, for director. Sally motioned and Colleen seconded.

At about 8:12, Clare motioned to exit executive session and Colleen seconded. All were in favor. Sally made a motion to offer Rosalie Reints the position of director and Colleen seconded. All were in favor. She will start a wage a little higher than her current wage with a plan to raise it later based on performance. She will start on Monday, March 23. Book orders should only be canceled by the director or director can delegate to employees. It was also agreed that Marian and Lori would work on the "parameters" statement to present to employees.

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Adjournment: Marian moved to adjourn the meeting and Colleen seconded. All were in favor and meeting ended at 8:14 pm.

Submitted by

Marian Termini
Secretary