

HOWELL CARNEGIE DISTRICT LIBRARY
Board of Trustees Meeting
Minutes of April 14, 2026

President Kathryn Tuck called the regular meeting of the Howell Carnegie District Library to order at 7:00 pm.

Maria Stuart moved to approve the agenda as presented. Bob Ellis seconded, and a quorum of the board unanimously approved.

Members present: Jennifer Earl, Bob Ellis, Susan Pominville, Jacob Schlittler, Maria Stuart, Kathryn Tuck, and Heather White. Library Director Holly Ward Lamb and Shannon Coker, Parks & Programs Coordinator for the City of Howell, were present. Three members of the public also attended the meeting.

Member(s) Absent: None.

IN-SERVICE TRAINING TOPIC

Shannon Coker, Parks & Programs Coordinator for the City of Howell, updated the board on the city's Fire and Ice Project, potential programs associated with it, and her new position in general.

Maria Stuart moved to approve the consent agenda as presented, including **a) Minutes of March 10, 2026; b) Bills & Payrolls, including the payment register dated 03/01/2026 through 03/31/2026 for the amount of \$158, 555.13; c) Updating Permissions Policy; and d) Resolution 26-02 to Honor the Volunteer Service of Fred Woodhams.** Susan Pominville seconded, and the board was polled. All board members approved.

Comments from the public: None.

President Kathryn Tuck thanked the board for completing the annual director evaluation. She stated that next month, the board will review the responses as a team, and she will then circle back to discuss the evaluation with Director Lamb. She also thanked board members who attended the recent Women United "Power of the Purse" event, which will support literacy programs in the county.

The treasurer's report is part of the library board packet. Treasurer Bob Ellis briefly reviewed the report with the board. Since no action is required, the report is filed.

Committee Reports: The Nominating & Recruiting Committee met at 6:30 pm on Tuesday, April 14, 2026. Holly Lamb reported that the committee discussed the slate of officers for FY 2026-27.

Director Holly Ward Lamb reported that the library received a very kind donation from a homebound patron. The \$1,000 donation was made in honor of the staff. Trustee Jennifer Earl agreed to call and thank the patron who made the donation.

Holly Lamb explained the “Library Hop” program, which encourages people to visit other libraries in addition to their home library. The library is participating in the Hop until April 30.

Director Lamb notified the board that the Michigan Tax Tribunal hearing is scheduled for August 18 and 19 (if necessary) in Lansing.

Director Lamb shared quotes from Equal Justice Initiative Attorney and Author Brian Stevenson, whom she heard speak at the PLA conference in Minneapolis. Mr. Stevenson’s address was connected to a series of programs we are hosting at the library entitled “Let’s Talk About Race.” She extended an invitation to the trustees for that series.

ACTION ITEMS

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

None.

NEW BUSINESS:

None.

DISCUSSION

- Director Lamb provided the board with an update on the replacement of three compressor units (project with ThermaNetics).
- Director Lamb provided the board with an update on new handrails for the front entrance. She reported that the final drawings have been signed off and are in the production line for both manufacturers; the estimated installation date is mid-August.
- Director Lamb updated the board on the bequest from the Jennifer Browning Trust.
- Board members reviewed the process and wording for the trustee assessment.

- Board members reviewed and discussed the quarterly update of the library's Strategic Plan. The kickoff meeting for the library's space assessment is scheduled for the last week of April. She will provide more information at the May board meeting.
- Service Spotlight: Recite Me.

COMMENTS & CONCERNS OF BOARD MEMBERS

Maria Stuart reported that she has just hired two part-time writers for The Livingston Post, and that her digital-only publication is doing quite well.

Without objection, President Kathryn Tuck adjourned the meeting at 8:02 pm.

Kathleen Murray, Recording Secretary