

**HOWELL CARNEGIE DISTRICT LIBRARY**  
**Public Hearing for Review of Proposed Budget and Board of Trustees Meeting**  
**Minutes of June 9, 2026**

President Kathryn Tuck called the Public Hearing for Review of Proposed Budget 2026-2027 to order at 6:45 pm. There were no comments from the public. Without objection, President Kathryn Tuck closed the public hearing at 7:00 pm.

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

Bob Ellis moved to approve the **agenda** as presented. Maria Stuart 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 was also present. Three members of the public also attended the meeting.

Bob Ellis moved to approve the **consent agenda** as presented, including **a) Minutes of May 12, 2026, b) Bills & Payrolls, including the payment register dated 05/01/26 through 05/31/26 for the amount of \$351,551.57, c) Annual Resolutions: Resolution 26-03** to authorize transfer of funds from one fund to another fund; **Resolution 26-04** to authorize transfer of funds from reserve to revenue; **Resolution 26-05** to amend the budget for fiscal year 2025-2026; **Resolution 26-06** to adopt a budget for fiscal year 2026-2027; **Resolution 26-07** to adopt a new pay rate structure; **Resolution 26-08** to authorize a wage adjustment for library staff; **Resolution 26-09** to honor the service of Maria Stuart; and **d) Policy Update on Use of Meeting Rooms**. Susan Pominville seconded, and the board was polled. All board members approved.

**Comments from the Public:** **Trevor J. Gronseth** stated he is a member of the Capital Improvement and Rate Advisory Board for the City of Howell. He recommended the library reconsider its use of “volcano mulching” around the trees on library property. He recommended creating mulch rings around the trees. He explained the technical reasons why flat mulching is better for tree longevity and volunteered to correct the issue for trees on library property.

**Lauren Weber** thanked the library and Trustee Jacob Schlittler for their help in launching this summer’s Downtown Howell Stories in Storefronts, in collaboration with Great Start Livingston.

**President Kathryn Tuck** gave a detailed report about her attendance at the Michigan Library Advocacy Day 2026, where she met with Representative Woolford and his staff. She brought various handouts from Advocacy Day for the other trustees to review. She advised that she watched the Howell Public Schools Board meeting earlier in the week, where potential library board members were interviewed. She noted that the appointment from the school board will be made Monday, June 15, and she will also attend that meeting.

**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:** None.

**Director Holly Ward Lamb** gave a shout-out to the Youth Services department for the incredible Summer Reading kickoff events on the library lawn June 1. Youth Services estimated that approximately 640 people attended the two events (a 40 percent increase over last year). She noted that staff represented the library at the Farmers Market on June 7, and that Monday, June 15 is the first day of the library's week-long Semiquincentennial Celebration events. She also recounted time spent with representatives of the Jennifer Browning Trust, during which she procured the family histories for the Archives. She will contact attorney Kelly Myers to ask for a signed document acknowledging that the other bequeathed items are on permanent loan to the McPherson Mansion.

### **ACTION ITEMS**

#### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

None.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

- Bob Ellis moved to approve the library grounds-use request from Allisson Hover for Saturday, June 13, 2026, with the caveat that anyone who wants to join the activity on the library lawn be allowed to do so. Jennifer Earl seconded, and a quorum of the board unanimously approved.
- Bob Ellis moved to approve the following slate of officers for fiscal year 2026-2027: Kathryn Tuck, President; Susan Pominville, Vice President; Jennifer Earl, Secretary; and Bob Ellis, Treasurer. Jacob Schlittler seconded, and a quorum of the board unanimously approved.

### **DISCUSSION**

- The board reviewed and discussed its Trustee Assessment Summary.
- Director Lamb reminded the trustees to review the Annual Commitment to Excellence for signature at the June board meeting.

- At 7:38 pm, Director Holly Ward Lamb requested the board enter into a closed session to discuss her performance evaluation. Bob Ellis moved to enter into a closed session to discuss the performance evaluation of Holly Ward Lamb. Jennifer Earl seconded, and a quorum of the board unanimously approved. At 8:19 pm, Bob Ellis moved to end the closed session and return to an open meeting. Jacob Schlitter supported, and a quorum of the board unanimously approved.

**COMMENTS & CONCERNS OF BOARD MEMBERS**

Kathryn Tuck wished to let the trustee who came to her (whom she promised not to “call out”) know that she understands some board members do not feel comfortable speaking in front of the whole group, and that she will do her best to make space for that.

Without objection, President Kathryn Tuck adjourned the meeting at 8:21 pm.

Kathleen Murray, Recording Secretary