

Brewer Public Library
325 North Central Avenue
Richland Center, WI 53581
608 647-6444

**Brewer Public Library Board Meeting Minutes
February 16, 2026**

Present: Karin Tepley, Lisa Rewald, Jim Korb, Blossom Wright, Sherri Johnson, Sarah Schultz, Dave Turk and Anna Jarvis

Also Present: Director Stacy Pilla

Absent:

1. Meeting was called to order at 5:00pm by President Tepley. A quorum was present.
2. Director Pilla indicated that the meeting was properly posted.
3. **Approval of Agenda:** Motion by Schultz, seconded by Johnson, to approve the agenda. Motion carried.
4. **Approval of the Minutes:** Motion by Wright, seconded by Korb, to approve the meeting minutes from the January 26th meeting. Motion carried.
5. **Treasurer's Report:** Director Pilla reported that January's beginning balance was \$269,124.48. \$45,342.94 was spent and \$672.21 in interest and fees were collected in January. The remaining total was \$223,109.33 at the end of the month. Motion by Schultz, seconded by Jarvis, to approve the Treasurer's report. Roll call vote. All were in favor. Motion carried.
6. **Director's report:**
 - Total circulation for January was 3,847.
 - There were five adult programs with 6 attendees and 6 Juvenile programs with 114 attendees. There was an Outreach program at Ithaca's school with 65 attendees. There were 330 desk-top log-ins and 665 wireless log-ins.
 - The community survey to help inform the strategic planning process is ongoing and will remain open until February 27th.
 - The staff in-service was held today and the library opened to the public at 2pm.
 - The library is once again participating in "Check out Wisconsin State Parks at Your Library" program. One-time use daily admission passes to any state park are available to patrons.
 - Planning for the summer reading program is well underway.
 - Efforts to improve signage and décor in the Children's room and teen area is ongoing.
 - Motion by Turk, seconded by Schultz, to approve the Director's report. All were in favor, motion carried.

Discussion and Action Items

- **Overview of 2025 Annual Report:** The Board and the Director went over the Annual Report. The Director pointed out some changes since 2024 that relate to trends for most public libraries such as circulation numbers and computer usage. E-Books have impacted circulation and the fact that more patrons have their own devices impacted use of library computers. Motion by Johnson, seconded by Wright to approve the 2025 Annual Report with some pending adjustments. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- **Discussion on Carnegie Library Windfall:** The Director discovered that libraries in our system received \$10,000 from the Carnegie Association due to the fact they had or have a Carnegie library in their community. Stacy pursued this possible funding availability and discovered that our library was eligible. The money will go into the library's account through the city along with a budget adjustment.
- **Discussion on Outdoor Signage:** The proposed replacement of the current outdoor signage will cost \$25,000+ and additional funds for demolition. Due to this amount, we will pursue bids through the city.
- 7. **Approval of Monthly Bills:** Motion by Rewald, seconded by Schultz, to approve payment of bills. Roll call vote. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- 8. **FOL and Foundation report:** The Director talked about the upcoming FOL meeting on Thursday. The group is working on expanding membership and the Director gave a report on changes to the Hoopla usage. The Library Foundation recently met and is working on new brochures. The goal is to educate the public as to the best way to donate to the Foundation.
- 9. **County Board Report:** Dave Turk reported that Symon's Recreation Complex is currently doing a survey amongst its members. The Student Center at the former campus sustained water damage due to a failed boiler. The County Board is reviewing demolition costs for the campus. The Board is also reviewing EMS options.
- 10. **City Council Report:** Karin Tepley reported that the report on city streets has been completed. Hive Drive plans have been OK'd. A Facility agreement has been reached for Lydia's House. The mortgage was transferred to the City.
- 11. **School District Report:** Sherri Johnson reported that agreements are in place for Melville Hall and the former Campus Gym. The District is dealing with resignations and hiring for next year.
- 18. **Adjournment:** Motion by Wright, seconded by Jarvis, to adjourn. Motion carried.

The next meeting is scheduled for March 16th at 5:00 pm.