

Minutes of the Waupun Public Library Board Meeting Wednesday, June 18, 2025

The Waupun Public Library Board was called to order by Dr. Bev Martens, President, at 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday, June 18, 2025. Present were DeJaeger, Gehl, Hintze, Homan, Martens, Mielke, Svec, Jaeger, and Garcia. Beer was absent.

Minutes from Previous Meetings

Motion by Svec, second Hintze, to accept the May minutes as presented. Motion carried.

Persons Wishing to Address the Library Board

1. Jess Kiehl: Provided an analysis of typical use by children 12 and under at the Waupun Public Library.
2. Sandy Oestreich: Spoke about her love of the library; said the library should consider the viewpoint of the majority and that the library doesn't need to meet all community members' needs.
3. Don Steinhauer: Said the library was a grooming factory and he thinks the library thinks it is okay to exploit children. He spoke about moral relativism and that the library is contributing to the decay and rot of society.
4. Forsell Gappa: Outlined his interpretation of love as he says is defined by God; compared the library display to the devil.
5. Kara Nelson: Thanked the library board for their work; spoke in support of separation of church and state and the parent's right to choose.
6. Angie Kirst: Spoke in support of the separation of church and state; pointed out that other church denominations that have churches in Waupun affirm and support the LGBTQ community.
7. Peggy Shurman: Shared her beliefs about public libraries and that a true democracy will not decide what others can read or do.
8. Kelly Bowen Brown: Shared her personal story of her life growing up as LGBTQ, and that if she showed her true self as a child, she knew she would have been shamed, mocked and condemned.
9. Heather Van Buren: Waupun consists of many people; the library exists to serve everyone.
10. Elizabeth Cook: Mentioned that the library has many romance books that go into graphic detail; felt that the library having sexual education books is acceptable; does not support Christian Nationalism.

Monthly Statistics

May statistics were reviewed.

Budget Summary

Current budget was reviewed.

Consideration of Bills for Payment

Motion by Hintze, second Homan, to pay the June 2025 bills as presented. Motion carried 7-0 on roll call.

Committee Reports

No Committee Reports.

Librarian's Report

Librarian's report was reviewed.

Old Business

Motion by Svec, second Gehl, to approve Display Policy for Library Staff as presented. Motion carried.

New Business

Mielke and Gehl appointed to Budget Committee.

Closed Session

Motion by Hintze, second Mielke, to go into closed session under Section 19.85(1)(c) of the WI Statutes to discuss the library director's performance evaluation. Motion carried.

Motion by Hintze, second DeJager, to go back into Open Session. Motion carried.

Action from Closed Session

Motion by Hintze, second Homan, to approve performance evaluation with one modification to list of annual goals. Motion carried.

Future meetings and gatherings involving the Library Board

Next tentative meeting: Wednesday, July 16, 2025, at 4:30 p.m.

Adjournment

Motion by Hintze, second Mielke, to adjourn at 6:27 p.m. Motion carried.

Marie Svec, Secretary

MS/bkj