

LINCOLN LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING



July 23, 2025

Board Present: Andre Jordan, President; Helen Cox, Vice-President; Chris Terry, Secretary; Robert Banks; Mary Mucciante; Marty Ryan (arrived 4:46pm)

Board Absent: Kathryn Harris, Ann Mares

Staff Present: Gwen Harrison, Director; Emily Stone, Assistant Director; Jeff Blazis, Interim Fiscal Officer; Micah Moran, Fiscal Officer

President Jordan called the meeting to order at 4:45pm.

The Board approved the minutes for the May 2025 meeting.

Financial Report: Jeff Blazis, Interim Fiscal Officer, presented the May and June financial reports. He noted that as of June, the fourth month of the fiscal year, the library had expended 37% of its appropriated budget and received 33% of the projected revenue for the year. The bookmobile was also paid for during this period, with the funding coming from the Wagner Bequest.

Director's Report:

GENERAL UPDATES

- The Board reviewed *Illinois Public Library Standards: Access*.
- The library received the annual Per Capita grant from the Illinois State Library in the amount of \$168,731.15.
- The staff on the Strategic Planning Committee will have a kick-off meeting with Fast Forward Libraries to begin creating a three-to-five-year strategic plan for the library.
- Youth Services Manager Molly Burns and Director Harrison recently met with the architect for the Youth Services renovation to fine-tune expectations. A virtual tour of the recently remodeled Rockford Public Library is also planned.
- A successful DMV event for City employees was held on July 18th, with another event for the public to be held November 14th.

- The library resumed charging for printing and copying on July 1st, and while there have been a few glitches with the technology, it is going well.
- Library staff were recently trained on the use of NARCAN to comply with a new state law.
- The bookmobile is expected to be fully operational by September 2nd.
- The Extension Services van has been scheduled to be built on August 4th.
- Board members are encouraged to take advantage of the iLEAD trustee training offered through IHLS.
- A new exhibit entitled "Freedom: A History of US" will be housed on the 2nd floor of the library for the next 6 months.
- The Sangamon Valley Collection summer intern has uploaded more than 300 images to the Illinois Digital Archives, surpassing the initial goal for the position.

NEW STAFF AND HIRING

- Job offers have been made for the Library Page position for Youth Services and for a Security Officer.
- Micah Moran started as Fiscal Officer on July 21st.

PROGRAMMING AND EVENTS

- 100 campers from the YMCA toured City departments including the library on June 25th. The Alliance donated a book for each camper.
- Library staff will bring a story time to the Sensory Station at the Illinois State Fair for Dolly Days on Thursday, August 7th from 2-3pm.
- The library is taking part in a three-day commemoration of the 1908 Race Massacre in conjunction with many area organizations. Events will be held around the city and at Lincoln Library August 14th-16th. The library will host the opening event, a screening of the film *Springfield Had No Shame*, on August 14th at 5:30pm.
- Sangamon Experience will host a National Public Radio Exhibit this fall through spring. It will be located on the 1st floor where the Underground Railroad exhibit was displayed. A grand opening will take place on September 18th.

President's Report:

- President Jordan thanked Vice-President Cox for acting as President for the last few meetings.

Alliance Report: None

Foundation Report:

- The Foundation allocated \$2,000 for the purchase of Lincoln Library-branded reusable tote bags that can be sold to library patrons. The bags will be sold slightly over cost, with the proceeds used to buy additional bags.

- The Foundation was named as a beneficiary of the estate of former Lincoln Library employee Carl Lorber. The estate is still in probate, but the expected amount is around \$150,000, to be used for the purchase of children's materials.

New Business: None

Unfinished Business: None

Building Board of Trustees Meeting Agenda for August 2025: N/A

Public Forum: None

Executive Session: None

Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 5:22pm.

**ROLL CALL FOR
THE LINCOLN LIBRARY BOARD of TRUSTEES MEETING
Date 07.23.25**

Meeting called to order 4:45

Meeting adjourned 5:22

(Mark Y for yea and N for nay) **First Motion** **Second Motion**

Vote Results

Attendance		Minutes			Adjourn
<u>✓</u>	Banks, Robert	<u>✓</u>			<u>✓</u>
<u>✓</u>	Cox, Helen	<u>✓</u>			<u>✓</u>
<u>Ø</u>	Harris, Kathryn				
<u>✓</u>	Jordan, Andre	<u>✓</u>			<u>✓</u>
<u>Ø</u>	Mares, Ann				
<u>✓</u>	Mucciante, Mary	<u>✓</u>			<u>✓</u>
<u>✓ (4:46)</u>	Ryan, Marty	<u>✓</u>			<u>✓</u>
<u>✓</u>	Terry, Chris	<u>✓</u>			<u>✓</u>

Staff in Attendance: Gwen Harrison, Director; Emily Stone, Assistant Director; Micah Moran, Fiscal Officer; Jeff Blazis, Interim Fiscal Officer