

SKOKIE PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

January 14, 2026 Meeting Minutes

Carolyn A. Anthony Business and Community Center

CALL TO ORDER

Michelle Mallari, President, called the meeting to order at 6:32 pm.

Members present:

- Michelle Mallari, President; Alisa Ungar-Sargon, Vice President; Mary Pietrucha, Secretary; Voula Colburn; Leah Glickman, Amanda Lichtenstein; Ella Whitehead.

Staff present:

- Richard Kong, Executive Director; Laura McGrath, Deputy Director; Amy Koester, Director of Public Services; Sophie Kenney, Youth Services Manager; Laurel Dooley; Teen Services Manager; Jane Hanna, CME Manager; Alyson Doubek, Finance Manager; Suzy Rodela-Sulik, Administrative Coordinator; PJ Misiura, Program Assistant.

COMMENTS FROM OBSERVERS

There were no comments from observers.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF DECEMBER 10, 2025

At 6:33 pm, a motion was made by Ms. Colburn, seconded by Ms. Pietrucha:

- MOTION: THAT THE SKOKIE PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF DECEMBER 10, 2025.

A vote was taken, and the motion passed. There were 7 ayes and 0 nays.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Kong provided updates on the FY26-27 budget planning process, potential pilot for expansion of weekend hours, youth spaces furniture usage, and the Oakton College Learning Commons opening. The trustees noted the executive director's report.

APPROVAL OF THE DECEMBER 2025 DISBURSEMENT REPORT

The trustees asked some clarifying questions about the disbursements.

At 6:42 pm, a motion was made by Ms. Ungar-Sargon, seconded by Ms. Glickman:

- MOTION: THAT THE SKOKIE PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES APPROVE THE DECEMBER 2025 DISBURSEMENT REPORT.

A roll call vote was taken, and the motion passed. There were 7 ayes and 0 nays.

APPROVAL OF HOT WATER PUMP REPLACEMENT PROJECT PAY APP #5

Mr. Kong mentioned that this is the last pay app for the project.

At 6:43 pm, a motion was made by Ms. Colburn, seconded by Ms. Pietrucha:

- MOTION: THAT THE SKOKIE PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES APPROVE THE PAYMENT OF THE HOT WATER PUMP REPLACEMENT PROJECT PAY APP #5 AT A TOTAL COST OF \$13,734.33.

A roll call vote was taken, and the motion passed. There were 7 ayes and 0 nays.

APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA

The trustees discussed the reports, programs, and holds process.

At 6:57 pm, a motion was made by Ms. Lichtenstein, seconded by Ms. Ungar-Sargon:

- MOTION: THAT THE SKOKIE PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES APPROVE THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, AND THAT THE FOLLOWING CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS BE PLACED ON FILE:
 1. REPORTS;
 2. GIFTS:
 - \$50 from Stephen Stroud
 - \$50 from Anna Galland
 3. PERSONNEL:
 - HIRES:**
 - Effective January 15, 2026:
PT Laug, Advisory Specialist, Patron Engagement.
 - Effective January 5, 2026:
Mickey Kelly, Custodian, Building Services.
 - Effective December 29, 2025:
Amanda Goad, Program Supervisor, Learning Experiences.
 - TRANSITION:**
 - Effective January 12, 2026:
Geraldine Mendoza, Program Assistant, Learning Experiences.
 - Effective January 12, 2026:
Vincent Kao, Technical Services Specialist, Access Services.
 - DEPARTURES:**
 - Effective December 28, 2025:
Nabila Bakila, Patron Services Assistant, Access Services.
 - Effective December 26, 2025:
Rick Sawdon, Program Assistant, Learning Experiences.
 - Effective December 22, 2025:
Eddie Eng, Teen Services Specialist, Teen Services.
 - Effective December 19, 2025:
Matthew Mazan, Patron Services Assistant, Patron Engagement.

A vote was taken, and the motion passed. There were 7 ayes and 0 nays.

QUARTERLY INVESTMENT UPDATE

Ms. Doubek provided a summary of the quarterly investment update. The trustees asked some clarifying questions and noted the report.

YOUTH AND TEEN SERVICES PRESENTATION

Mr. Kong introduced Youth Services Manager Sophie Kenney and Teen Services Manager Laurel Dooley. Ms. Kenney and Ms. Dooley presented on the services of their respective departments. The trustees expressed their appreciation for the staff and the services they provide.

Ms. Kenney left the meeting at 7:40 pm.

APPROVAL OF SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY

Mr. Kong and Ms. Hanna provided a summary of the presented policy. After some discussion, the trustees made some recommendations and decided to postpone approval of the policy.

Ms. Colburn left the meeting at 7:46 pm. Ms. Colburn returned to the meeting at 7:50 pm.

APPROVAL OF AUDIO AND VISUAL MEDIA POLICY

Mr. Kong and Ms. Hanna provided a summary of the presented policy. The trustees asked some clarifying questions.

Ms. Doubek left the meeting at 8:06 pm.

At 8:11 pm, a motion was made by Ms. Lichtenstein, seconded by Ms. Whitehead:

- MOTION: THAT THE SKOKIE PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES APPROVE THE AUDIO AND VISUAL MEDIA POLICY AS PRESENTED.

A vote was taken, and the motion passed. There were 7 ayes and 0 nays.

COMMENTS FROM TRUSTEES

Ms. Ungar-Sargon suggested notifying trustees when there are materials for review in addition to the board packet.

ADJOURNMENT

At 8:12 pm, a motion was made by Ms. Lichtenstein, seconded by Ms. Ungar-Sargon:

- MOTION: THAT THE SKOKIE PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES ADJOURN THE REGULAR MEETING.

A vote was taken, and the motion passed. There were 7 ayes and 0 nays.

Mary Pietrucha, Secretary