



# beloit public library

Beloit Public Library Board of Trustees

Wednesday, January 21, 2026

605 Eclipse Blvd., Beloit, WI

Library Board Room

1. Call to order and roll call – President Heim called the meeting to order at 6:04 PM.

Members present: Alexis Beran, Sherry Blakeley, Lucas Carter (arr. 6:07), Rachele Elliott, Alissa Girdler, Gerardine Heim, Elizabeth Magnus, and Keira Wilson.

Members online: None

Members absent: Courtney Scott

Also present: Leadership Team Members: Nick Dimassis, Jennifer Laatz, Kim Huber, Michael DeVries, Amy Mitchell, Jessica Graminske, and Wyatt Ditzler.

2. Approval of the December 17, 2025 Library Board meeting minutes – Blakeley moved to approve the December 17, 2025 Library Board meeting minutes as presented. Beran seconded the motion. **Motion carried (7-0).**
3. Approval of the January 15, 2026 Personnel Committee meeting minutes – Elliott moved to approve the January 15, 2026 Personnel Committee meeting minutes as presented. Girdler seconded the motion. **Motion carried (7-0).**
4. Public Comment – None
5. Library Director and BPL Activity Report – Graminske introduced our newest staff member, Crystal Fath. Dimassis and team prepared a written report. In addition to the written report, Dimassis reported that the Foundation has reached its initial goal in the capital campaign for physical changes. We continue to raise funds for renewal and outreach.
6. Committees:
  - a. Budget/Facilities Committee – Did not meet.
  - b. Personnel Committee – Heim reported that they met on January 15<sup>th</sup> to review job descriptions and discuss the Library Director Performance Evaluation. More to come later on the agenda.
  - c. Strategic Plan Committee – Did not meet.

7. Old Business – Committee Assignments – Postpone to February meeting.
8. New Business -
  - a. **Discussion and approval of Discovery PLAYce Manager Job Description** – Blakeley moved to approve the Discovery PLAYce Manager job description as presented. Magnus seconded the motion. **Motion carried (8-0).**
  - b. **Discussion and approval of Marketing Assistant Job Description** – Wilson moved to approve the Marketing Assistant Job Description as presented. Carter seconded the motion. **Motion Carried (8-0).**
  - c. **Monthly financial report and approval of library and café bills** – Wilson moved to approve the December monthly financials and bills, with the library bills totaling \$74,246.44, Flexible Facilities Grant Program - \$610,859.75, and the Blender Café bills totaling \$0. Carter seconded the motion. **Motion Carried (8-0).**
9. Reports:
  - a. Beloit Public Library Foundation – No report. Next meeting is February 11, 2026.
  - b. Friends at Beloit Library (FABL) – Beran reported that the Friends group provided the official letter to the Library approving the budget requests for 2026 in the amount of \$25,940. The board discussed shelving. The next big book sale will be May 14 – 16, 2026. They are selling a lot of puzzles. Christmas mugs brought in \$513.
  - c. School District Representative – Elliott reported on WI Standards on Literacy Technology curriculum.
  - d. City Council Representative – Blakeley reported the council approved the needed ordinances for The Lincoln Academy expansion. Discussed the selection of a new city manager with a plan to have that person in place by the end of April. Climate Action Plan feedback being accepted through the city website through 2/1/26.
10. Trustee Activities and Upcoming Events – Wilson reported that the Culture Lounge is hosting 2 sip and paint programs: 2/10/26 6-8 pm and 2/14/26 4-7 pm.
11. Closed Session: Motion to adjourn to Executive Session pursuant to Wisconsin Statutes 19.85(1)(c) Considering employment, promotion, compensation, or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility specifically for the purpose of the 2025 Library Director performance evaluation. The board will return to open session.

Blakeley moved to enter into closed session. Elliott seconded the motion. **Motion Carried (8-0).** The board entered closed session at 6:45 pm.

Elliott moved to return to open session. Magnus seconded the motion. **Motion Carried (8-0).** The board returned to open session at 7:18 pm.

12. Approval of the 2025 Library Director Performance Evaluation – Beran moved to approve the Library Director Performance Evaluation at an exceptional rating. Girdler seconded the motion. **Motion Carried (8-0)**. Elliott moved to approve the 1% salary increase per policy. Blakeley seconded the motion. **Motion carried (8-0)**.

13. Motion to Adjourn – Carter moved to adjourn. Blakeley seconded the motion. **Motion Carried (8-0)**. Meeting adjourned at 7:20 PM.

Next meeting: Wednesday, February 18, 2026

Submitted by:  
Jennifer Laatz, Business Manager