

Bradley Public Library
Board of Trustees
Regular Meeting August 19, 2026
Drassler Conference Room

President Bayer called the meeting to order at 6:06 p.m.

Trustees Present: Nick Allen, Karen Bayer, Lucson Edme, Paula Goodwin, Brandon Hawkins, Jessica Trudeau

Trustees Absent: Jody Andriano

Also Present: Jodie DePatis, Director, Marie Cowden, Recording Secretary

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Trustee Trudeau made a motion to accept the minutes of the July 15, 2026 Regular Board meeting. Trustee Hawkins seconded and motion carried by unanimous vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

FINANCIAL REPORT AND APPROVAL OF VENDOR PAYMENTS:

Trustee Bayer made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report as submitted and to accept vendor payments in the amount of \$32,887.45 for the month of July 2026. Trustee Goodwin seconded and motion carried by roll call of 6 ayes, 0 nays, 1 absent.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

(Statistical Reports Attached)

Director DePatis stated the following:

- **Legal:** The tentative FY2027-28 budget was posted.
- **Building:** The Drassler meeting room carpets are being cleaned on September 8. After the carpet cleaning, we will be swapping the makerspace office with the East study room because of the larger size and ability to lock the East study room. The current makerspace office will revert back to a study room.
- **Personnel:** Holden Shipano who helped in the Youth Services Department over the summer will be continuing to assist in Youth Services and at the Circulation Desk during the school year.
- **PrairieCat:** Director DePatis attended the July 29 Delegates meeting at New Lenox Public Library. This year marks the 20th anniversary of PrairieCat.
- **Programs:** Plant a Seed, Read summer reading programs ended July 31. There were 55 participants ages 0-5 and 253 in grades K-8 for a total of 308 in the youth program. There were 122 K-8 participants that earned all of their dragon cards this year and over 1,400 attended summer activities. The most popular summer programs were the Pickle Party where the kids make their own pickles and tasted different pickles and pickle flavored snacks (may become an annual event!), the Teen Smoothie Showdown where groups of teens concocted their own smoothies, and the Worm Hotel where they created compost houses for worms. We also gave out approximately 335 take & make projects over 7 weeks. Summer lunches ended August 6. The adult/teen summer reading program had 243 registrants with 109 completing the program. Standout programs include a presentation on "How to Design a Native Plant Garden" whose presenter we plan to have back for another program and the Friends of the Library sponsored Mason Jar Bouquets with Molly Uftring of local Flat Rock Farm. Photography and pottery throwing were also popular programs. The youth and adult departments collaborated on a Family Paint Night at Willowhaven Park that had 43 attendees and received a lot of positive feedback. A woman who began attending the Watercolor Wednesday programs said she had taken expensive

classes in the past but never kept up with the painting but Information Services Coordinator Christina's approach was inspirational and she had started painting at home as well.

The final summer mobile pantry was held on August 11 and served 127 households. The next pantry will be in November. Staff members Dee Vent, McKenna Jones, Holden Shipano, and Christina Loraine participated in Bradley's National Night Out event on August 4th.

The Makerlab is gaining more traction with 24 participants in June and July. We will continue with open registration in the fall. We are working on adding access to the Glowforge and the ability to send in 3D prints to be made.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- **Fire Sprinkler Flushing:** Logistics are being finalized for the fire sprinkler flushing the first week of September. Jodie has contacted Servpro for an estimate on covering book shelves for protection against water damage in the event that pipe leaks occur.
- **Roof Repairs:** Director DePatis is working on logistics to get the roof repairs completed due to the March 2026 storm damage.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **FY2027-28 Budget & Appropriations Ordinance (26-02):** Director DePatis distributed and Trustee Allen made a motion to approve. Trustee Trudeau seconded and motion carried by roll call of 6 ayes, 0 nays, 1 absent.
- **Proposed FY2027-28 Levy:** Director DePatis distributed and discussed. She informed Trustees of the proposed levy to be an increase of 4.99%.
- **Update Section 3: Circulation of Materials, Part 1, Lending:** The newly added Nintendo Switch and PlayStation video games and after-hours pick up lockers being obsolete required an update to the circulation/lending policy. Trustee Hawkins made a motion to approve checkout of video games for a 2-week period with no renewals, and a limit of 2 per patron. The motion also included the policy on the pick-up lockers to be removed. Trustee Edme seconded and motion carried by roll call of 6 ayes, 0 nays, 1 absent.
- **Update Section 3: Circulation of Materials, Part 2, Overdue Materials:** The newly added Nintendo Switch and PlayStation video games being added to the collection required an update to the circulation/overdue materials policy. Trustee Allen made a motion to approve a \$.50 a day overdue fine on overdue video games. Trustee Goodwin seconded and motion carried by roll call of 6 ayes, 0 nays, 1 absent.
- **2027 Trustee Elections:** All Trustees except for Nick Allen will be taking part in the 2027 election. All required forms were distributed and Trustee's were informed that they will need 13 signatures from people residing in the Bradley Public Library District. Additionally, they can begin circulating forms on August 25th and the filing dates for paperwork are November 16-23rd, 2026.
- **Secretary's Audit of FY2023-24 Minutes:** Audit of minutes was completed assuring all were present, reviewed, and signed.
- **Annual Sexual Harassment Training for Elected/Appointed Officials:** Trustees completed the annual sexual harassment training for elected/appointed officials by watching the video provided by the Illinois Department of Human Rights.

COMMUNICATIONS/CORRESPONDENCE: None

ADJOURNMENT: At 7:02 p.m. Trustee Hawkins made a motion to adjourn. Trustee Edme seconded and motion carried by unanimous vote.

The next regularly scheduled board meeting will be Wednesday, September 16, 2026 at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jessica Trudeau
Secretary

Marie Cowden
Recording Secretary