

Kokomo-Howard County Public Library (KHCPL)
Board of Trustees Meeting
KHCPL Main
April 21, 2025

Members

Mary Baker
Stephanie Carrell
Joe Dunbar, President
Alan Girton
Ms. Sosbe*
Ms. Stover

Others

Hayden Cummins, Mayor's Youth Advisory
TJ Rethlake, Attorney
Alex Toren, Mayor's Youth Advisory

Staff

Faith Brautigam, Director
Doug Workinger, Assistant Director
Rita Bates, Head of Finance
Ginger Hanny, Administrative Assistant
Caele Pemberton
Aaron Smith*
Christie Tate*

The meeting was called to order by the president at 4:30 p.m. with five members present. (Board members, attorney, Mayor's Youth Advisory representatives, Ms. Bates, Ms. Brautigam, Ms. Hanny, Ms. Pemberton, and Mr. Workinger attended in person. All others* attended via Zoom.)

There were no public comments in person or via Zoom meeting software chat.

The consent agenda was reviewed as follows (see reports and agenda): Minutes of March meeting; March statistical report; March 11 – April 14 appropriations report; March financial report; March 11 – April 14 allowance of claims; and personnel changes. The consent agenda was approved, following a motion by Mr. Girton and a second by Ms. Baker, by the following vote (aye – Ms. Baker, Ms. Carrell, Mr. Girton, and Ms. Stover).

The board reviewed the Public Comments Policy (see policy) with the addition from library counsel based on the discussion at the regular meeting in March. Mr. Rethlake's amendment read as follows: "The library encourages civility in public discourse and requests that commenters refrain from language which would incite an immediate breach of the peace; refrain from undue repetition, extended discussion of irrelevancies, obscenity, and personal attacks against private individuals unrelated to the operation of the library." *Ms. Sosbe joined the meeting virtually with video and audio on.

The board reviewed and approved the Sponsorship Policy, following a motion by Ms. Baker and a second by Mr. Girton, by the following vote (aye – Ms. Baker, Ms. Carrell, Mr. Girton, Ms. Sosbe, and Ms. Stover). Ms. Carrell inquired about examples of past sponsorships. Ms. Brautigam noted that one of the Bookmobiles used to be sponsored by Ivy Tech Community College and that some programs, such as the Rudolph Run, have had local sponsorships in the past.

Ms. Pemberton presented KHCPL Guidelines for the Use of Artificial Technology (see document) to the board. The purpose of this document is to provide KHCPL employees with guidelines for responsible and ethical use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools for library purposes. These guidelines also set parameters around irresponsible use of AI tools for library use.

Ms. Brautigam informed the board that the 2025 Staff Development Day has been set for Friday, October 24. All KHCPL locations will be closed on this day. Ms. Brautigam acknowledged that this date unfortunately overlaps with fall break for local schools. However, several dates were in consideration, and due to internal programming and external venue availability, this was the selected date.

The Indiana Library Federation published advocacy material that features a photo submitted by KHCPL (see document). When ILF made a call for local libraries to submit photos for advocacy materials, KHCPL was able to do so quickly because

staff are diligent to regularly capture patrons participating in library programs and services. Additionally, Ms. Brautigam, along with three other KHCPL staff, traveled to the Statehouse to advocate for library services.

Under Thumbnail Sketch • Ms. Pemberton highlighted the upcoming Library Con event happening in May. This all-day event will feature board games, cosplay, vendors, workshops, and more across all three library locations. Ms. Pemberton highlighted that this is a great opportunity to show people that the library is a space for everyone.

There was no Other New Business.

Under Director's Comments • Ms. Brautigam invited members of the board to join her at the Douglass School Jazz Brunch on Saturday, May 17. Ms. Brautigam also informed the board that she would be out of the office for a week.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:51 p.m.

Cathy Stover, Secretary

[Minutes prepared by Ginger Hanny.]

The next library board meeting will be on **Monday, May 19** at 4:30 p.m. at KHCPL Main.