

**ALLERTON PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES  
April 8, 2026**

The Allerton Public Library District Library Board of Trustees met on Wednesday, April 8, 2026. President Sue Gortner called the meeting to order at 4:02pm.

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Jeff Clodfelter, Sue Gortner, Mike Harris, Sue Lochbaum, Lynn Richardson, Ellie Tracy, Beth Manuel

Absent: none

Also in attendance: Sherry Waldrep

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

President Gortner has been reading about the librarian in Tennessee who was asked to remove certain books from the library and subsequently fired for not doing so.

**SECRETARY'S REPORT** (approval of minutes)

Sue Gortner moved to approve the March 11, 2026 minutes as written. Seconded by Mike Harris. Motion carried.

AYES: Jeff Clodfelter, Sue Gortner, Mike Harris, Sue Lochbaum

NAYS: 0

ABSTAIN: Lynn Richardson, Ellie Tracy, Beth Manuel

**CORRESPONDENCE, COMMUNICATIONS, PUBLIC COMMENTS** - none

**FINANCIAL REPORT** (approval of Bills Payable)

Beth Manuel provided the financial report. Six CDs are maturing this year and she will take care of them when they come due. Interest rates are about 3.7%. A business checking account was opened at CIBM for the purpose of paying ACH payments for the Bequest Fund. Sue Lochbaum moved to approve and pay the bills. Seconded by Mike Harris. Motion carried.

AYES: Jeff Clodfelter, Sue Gortner, Mike Harris, Sue Lochbaum, Lynn Richardson, Ellie Tracy, Beth Manuel

NAYS: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

**DIRECTOR'S REPORT:**

**PROGRAMS FROM LAST MONTH:**

In person programs: 27

Adult Bingo – 17

Crafternoon - 3

Board Game Café - 33

Lap time – 48 (26 kids, 22 adults)

BYOB Book Group – 12

Playtime – 26 (15 kids, 11 adults)

Story time – 14 (8 kids, 6 adults)

Teen/Tween D&D – 0  
Non-fiction book group – 5  
Cherry & Jerry Ragtime – 15

Kids Read: White Heath – 255  
Super Saturday-Read to Cats - 70  
Yoga – 30

Virtual events: 1

Illinois Libraries Presents: Everett - 0

Passive programs: 6

Adult Activity Packets-90; Adult Try Something Kit-30; Take and Makes: Adult-25; Kids-30; Teen-30. St Patrick's Day Scavenger Hunt-50

**OTHER ITEMS:**

**Programming:** Meeting with Emily and Laura to wrap up plans for summer programming. A new StoryWalk story has been put up. Emily went to White Heath school for Kids Read – 13 classes, 255 students – each student received a free book.

**Administrative:** Held the annual book sale for 4 days which netted \$419. At the end of the sale, we distributed the leftovers as follows- 13 boxes were sent to Better World Books and 17 boxes to Books for Prisoners. Attended SHARE e-Resources Committee meeting. Attended Rolling Prairie Digital Consortium meeting (Megan did as well). Attended ILA Small and Rural Libraries webinar as well as two of the ILA Noon Network programs that had to do with the legislation regarding digital materials. Attended Medium Pubs Directors meeting at Forsyth Public Library. Filed all the Economic Interest forms with the County Clerk on March 31st. Started work on 2026-27 prelim budget, mainly the salary section. Working on a Fiscal Policy. Led the 130<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Library Committee meeting. The committee brainstormed ideas of how to celebrate the library. Would like to have an open house celebration in October 2027. Looking at a few Thursdays from 4-7pm with cookies, drinks, photos, memorabilia displays, giveaways, etc. Other ideas planned throughout the year including tote bags and mugs for purchase; bookmark competition; newspaper articles; revised logo; mayoral proclamation; library facts in the monthly newsletter; and more! Discussion about the high cost of Hoopla. The Board agreed to the recommendation to lower the borrows to five in order to save over \$2,600 a year.

**Building:** none

**Technology updates:** Signed the agreement form with Consolidated Communications for the new phone system (service and phones).

**Community relations:** Attended March Sangamon Valley CEO Mentor/Mentee meeting.

**Staff:** Held Staff Meeting on April 1<sup>st</sup>. Upcoming days off/vacation for me –April 10, May 18-26.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Financial Committee (Manuel, Richardson, Lochbaum) - none

Personnel Committee (Gortner & Manuel) - none

Policy Committee (Lochbaum & Tracy) - none

Buildings & Grounds Committee (Clodfelter, Harris, Gortner) - none

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS****Vote on extending the IGA with Monticello School District**

Discussion included that we should continue as it's good for the children. It's a good step to being accommodating to Sangamon Township. It's the kids we need to think about.

Director Waldrep indicated that it is not a burden for staff. Trustees would like the Sangamon Township to consider passing a referendum. Ellie Tracy read the Resolution Sue Gortner moved to accept the resolution and proposal and IGA renewal for 2 years. Votes in favor – 6, against - 1.

**NEW BUSINESS** - none

**OTHER** - none

**ADJOURNMENT**

Jeff Clodfelter moved to adjourn the meeting at 5:10pm. Seconded by Lynn Richardson. The next scheduled Board of Trustees meeting will be held on May 13, 2026 at 4:00pm.

Respectfully submitted May 13, 2026 by Sherry Waldrep, Acting Secretary.