BALDWIN PUBLIC LIBRARY

Public Comment Policy

300 W. Merrill St. Birmingham, MI 48009 | 248-647-1700 | www.baldwinlib.org

Role of Public Comment at Library Board Meetings: The Birmingham City Charter grants exclusive authority to the publicly elected Library Board to maintain and operate the Baldwin Public Library. Members of the public shall have a reasonable opportunity to comment on matters pending before the Library Board.

The agenda for any meeting of the Library Board will include a general comment period for any public comment on any subject relevant to the Library.

The Board President or presiding officer will determine the order in which speakers will be recognized. Unless additional time is granted by the Board President or presiding officer at the beginning of the meeting before public comment begins, each person is allowed a maximum of two (2) minutes to speak. Speakers may not cede time to another speaker. Meeting participants may speak when specifically recognized by the presiding officer.

Public comments will be addressed to the Board. Personal attacks on Library Board Members, staff members or members of the public will not be tolerated, nor will language that is considered offensive, harassing, or profane. If at any time a speaker appearing before the Board exceeds the time limitations set forth in this policy or becomes abusive in language or behavior, the President or presiding officer may declare that person out of order and refuse them permission to continue to address the Board. Any person or persons judged by the Board to be disorderly or who do not follow the guidelines established by the Board will be asked to leave the premises.

The Board may or may not take action on any presented items. The Board President or other presiding officer may respond as appropriate and, for example, direct speakers to the appropriate staff member for assistance. Issues requiring possible action by the Board may be added to a future agenda. Issues that may need to be addressed by the administration will be duly noted.

Policy adopted by the Library Board February 20, 2006. Revised November 15, 2021