



**BALDWIN PUBLIC LIBRARY MINUTES,
REGULAR MEETING
February 23, 2026**

Call to Order and Roll Call:

The meeting was called to order by President Danielle Rumble at 7:30 p.m.

Library Board present: Wendy Friedman, Pam Graham, Frank Pisano, Karen Rock, and Danielle Rumble.

Absent and excused: Jennifer Wheeler.

Library Staff present: Rebekah Craft, Director, Jaclyn Miller, Associate Director and Robert Stratton, Office Administrator.

Friends of the Library liaison present: Ryndee Carney.

Contract community representatives present: None.

Members of the public present: 1 in person, 4 via Zoom.

All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance following establishment of quorum.

Rock read aloud the Library's Mission Statement.

1. General Public Comment Period:

Comment 1: Baldwin Public Library has an opportunity to reduce the toll of dead birds and educate the public about saving wild birds. Advocates for Library Board to take action and add Feather Friendly application to the FY26-27 budget to protect birds from window collisions.

Comment 2: Advocated for glass windows to be retrofitted with bird strike prevention. Long-term solutions are most fiscally responsible. Superior Township Library had acid-etched glass installed and have not had any documented strikes.

Comment 3: Sustainability includes saving wildlife. The Detroit Zoo and Wayne State University are taking measures to apply Feather Friendly applications to high-risk spaces. Hopes the Library Board will approve the bird strike prevention application. Detroit Bird Alliance can help monitor the impact of bird strike prevention to document the benefit.

2. Consent Agenda:

Motion to approve the consent agenda.

A. Approval of January 21, 2026 Board Meeting Minutes

B. Approval of February 2, 2026 Special Board Meeting Minutes

C. Approval of January 2026 vendor payments in the amount of \$135,477.24, including payments in excess of \$75,000.

D. Approval of total expenses in the amount of \$419,357.35

1st Rock

2nd Friedman

A roll call vote was taken.

Yeas: Friedman, Graham, Pisano, Rock, Rumble.

Nays: None.

Absent and excused: Wheeler.

The motion was approved unanimously.

3. Board Reports and Special Announcements:

President's report: Rumble thanked staff for staying open through mid-Winter break and said she was sad to have missed the mini-golf event that her family has enjoyed in the past.

Board comments: Rock thanked Craft and staff who maintained Library functions on a very snowy January 25.

Staff Anniversaries: Friedman recognized the following staff anniversaries: Julia Eisenstein (2 years of service), Carlton Elam (6 years), Joel Felsenfeld (2 years), Theresa Hart (30 years), Syntha Green (10 years), Angela Shinozaki (9 years), and Sofia Silvis (4 years).

Upcoming events of interest: Miller reported upcoming events at the Library, full details of which are on pages 74 of the February Board packet.

4. Board Committee Reports

Finance Committee:

Friedman reported that the Finance Committee met on January 12. Present were Friedman, Pisano, Rumble, Craft, and Miller. Full minutes from this meeting are on page 16 of the February Board packet. The next meeting of the Finance Committee will take place on Monday, March 9, 2026 at 4:00 p.m. in the Director's Alcove.

The Board moved to discussion and exploration of potential items to preserve or discard in the FY26-27 budget. These items included: allocating tuition reimbursement for staff, installing a covered awning over the loading dock staircase, adding sound dampening measures within the building, hiring a marketing specialist, building additional study rooms between the Grand Hall and public computer area, expanding the Idea Lab footprint, installation of bird-strike deterrent measures, and budgeting for the increased Administrative Services fee paid to the City of Birmingham.

The Board agreed that every item included should specifically support Baldwin's Strategic Plan goals. Bird-strike prevention is expensive and does not support the Strategic Plan. The Administrative Services fee allocation should be increased to accommodate a high-end estimate with a 3% annual increase. Trustees compromised on including a part-time, or equivalent contracted services, marketing specialist in lieu of bird-strike prevention. Graham questioned a 11% overall increase in personnel costs, which Craft said included a \$1.50 wage increase across positions due to minimum wage increases and an additional part-time hire in Technical Services. The loading dock stairs canopy will be added to the budget, but can only be installed after the loading dock is reconstructed.

Motion to have Director Craft include all items listed in her February 20, 2026 Budget Discussion memo in the FY2026-2027 Budget, with the changes: increase Administrative Services costs to \$225,000; include the canopy over the loading dock; add \$40,000 in salaries or contracted services for marketing to support the Strategic Plan; review the 11% increase in salaries; and delete the bird glass from the capital improvements line item.

1st Graham

2nd Rock

A voice vote was taken.

Yeas: Friedman, Graham, Pisano, Rock, Rumble.

Nays: None.

Absent and excused: Wheeler.

The motion was approved unanimously.

Building Committee:

Graham reported that the Building Committee met on February 9. Present were Graham, Rock, Rumble, Craft, and Miller. The report from this meeting is on page 30 of the February Board packet. There has been no action on the replacement Atrium glass by the City. The committee discussed relocating the Idea Lab to the Jeanne Lloyd Room and determined the disadvantages outweighed the advantages of expanding the current footprint. The next meeting of the Building Committee will take place on Monday, April 13, 2026 at 4:45 p.m. in the Director's Alcove.

Outreach Committee:

Rock reported that the Outreach Committee met on January 23. Present were Friedman (via Zoom), Graham, Rock, Craft, and Miller. Full minutes from this meeting are on page 32 of the February Board packet. The next meetings of the Outreach Committee will take place on Tuesday, February 24, 2026 at 1:00 p.m and Tuesday, April 7 at 1:00 p.m.

Library Report:

Craft and Miller presented highlights from the Library Report. Miller reviewed the newly adjusted Statistical Dashboard with additional metrics requested from the Board. Full details of the complete report, including programs and services updates, are on pages 33-41 of the February Board packet.

5. **Liaisons**

Friends: Ryndee Carney reported that the Friends have formed a new subcommittee to examine new methods to attract members. Friends' memberships have declined from ~600 in 2009 to 180 in 2026.

Beverly Hills: There was no report.

Bloomfield Hills: There was no report.

Bingham Farms: There was no report.

6. **New & Miscellaneous Business:**

Freedom of Information Act Policy: Craft reviewed the memorandum found on page 44 of the February Board packet regarding the adoption of a FOIA Policy. The policy was written by Library Attorney for a fee of \$267. Responses to FOIA requests will be handled by the Director. The policy includes: procedures and guidelines, a written summary of procedures and guidelines, and detailed itemization steps to determine fees. Craft recommends the Board approve the resolution to approve the procedures and guidelines.

Motion to approve the proposed Freedom of Information Act Policy as stated in the Resolution to Approve FOIA Procedures and Guidelines on pages 70 to 71.

1st Pisano

2nd Rock

A voice vote was taken.

Yeas: Friedman, Graham, Pisano, Rock, Rumble.

Nays: None.

Absent and excused: Wheeler.

The motion was approved unanimously.

7. Unfinished Business: None.

8. Items Removed from Consent Agenda: None.

9. Information Only: See pages 73-87 of the February Board packet.

10. Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn the meeting.

1st Pisano

2nd Rock

A voice vote was taken.

Yeas: Friedman, Graham, Pisano, Rock, Rumble.

Nays: None.

Absent and excused: Wheeler.

The motion was approved unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:16 p.m. The next regular meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 16, 2026 at 7:30 p.m. in the Rotary & Donor Room.

Wendy Friedman
Wendy Friedman, Secretary

3-16-2026
Date