
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Amee Janus, President
Beth Hendrix, Vice President
John Poole, Treasurer
Kathey Czischke, Secretary
Katie Bjorkman
Kim Chesser
Kevin Fitzgerald
Nancy Kemp
Kelly Sweeting

Board of Trustees Meeting
5:30pm, Monday, February 26, 2024

Salem Lakes Building
24615 89th Street, Salem, WI

Meeting Minutes

LeeAnn Briese, Director

24615 89th Street
Salem, WI 53168
(262) 843-3348 Telephone
(262) 843-3144 Fax
communitylib.org

Present: President Janus, Trustees: Bjorkman, Czischke, Fitzgerald, Hendrix, Kemp, Poole, Sweeting

Absent: Trustee: Chesser

Administration: LeeAnn Briese, Director

1. **Call to order** – President Janus called the meeting to order at 5:30pm.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call**
3. **Minutes from the board meetings held Monday, January 22, 2024**
Motion made by Trustee Poole to accept the minutes of the meeting held on Monday, January 22, 2024 with a correction to the date listed on line 13 from February 16 to February 26, seconded by Trustee Czischke. Director Briese will make the correction before posting. Passed unanimously.
4. **Citizens comments** – None
5. **Financials**
Motion made by Trustee Hendrix to accept the financial report as presented, seconded by Trustee Kemp. Passed unanimously.
6. **Bills for payment**
Motion made by President Janus to pay all bills as presented, seconded by Trustee Kemp. Passed unanimously.
7. **Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction Public Library Annual Report**
Motion made by Trustee Czischke to accept DPI's Annual Report as presented, seconded by Trustee Fitzgerald. Passed unanimously.
8. **Town of Randall's participation in the Community Library**
The Town of Randall voted to withdraw as a participant in the Community Library's Joint Operating Agreement at their February 8, 2024 meeting. The Town's participation in the Agreement will end December 31, 2025. Leading up to this decision, a few Library Board members attended some of Randall's meetings in January and February and expressed their disappointment in not being able to have more time to share information on library funding. Trustee Poole thanked Trustee Fitzgerald for attending the meetings. Trustee Fitzgerald shared his thoughts on why the Town's residents would not save that much by leaving the Community Library. Trustee Kemp thanked her fellow board members for their work and research. Trustee Fitzgerald expressed an interest in continuing to discuss the matter with the Town at later date.
9. **Director's Report**
Director Briese reported that the 2023 financial audit is in progress.

February Programs: The winter reading challenge ended with patrons logging over 115,000 minutes. The library has four different story hours, all are well attended. One of the story hour's averages 27 kids/adults per week, the last one had 38 kids/adults attend. The last Lego Club had 38 participants and the afterhours Dragon's Lair program had 36 kids attend. A parent sent an email to the staff letting them know how much her

kids enjoyed the after-hours program. University of Wisconsin-Madison Professor, John Magnuson, will present a program on climate change and its effects on our lakes. Staff put together art kits that included a tiny canvas and paint for patrons to take home and create their masterpiece. Patrons will bring their completed art back to the library to create a Tiny Art Show display in March.

March Programs: Staff have created and prepared over 40 programs for youth and adult patrons in March. Special programs have been planned specifically for kids during spring break week. Spring break programs kick off with a wildlife program presented by David Stokes who will bring live critters, plus there will be obstacle courses in the library, arts and crafts programs, a puppet show and a movie. Certified Arborist, Kevin Nolan will present a program on native plant landscaping. Chef Susan Maddox will present a spring brunch program. Author Kristine Hansen will present her book “Frank Lloyd Wright’s Wisconsin: How America’s Most Famous Architect Found inspiration in His Home State” and there will be a limited number of solar eclipse glasses to give away for patrons to view the solar eclipse. The March eNewsletter was sent highlighting the March program. A patron sent the library staff this message: *Great job! Boy, you folks are BUSY!* Kenosha County Library System received a grant from MasterClass for a free annual membership. MasterClass is a streaming platform where patrons can learn from the world’s best. Classes are taught by respected and renowned experts in a series of high-quality video lessons in arts & entertainment, writing, business, food, home & lifestyle, music, sports & gaming and more.

Director Briese shared handouts received at the last Kenosha County Library System meeting on: The Life Cycle of a Library Book, When there is a Book Challenge, Shelving of a Library Book, Using the Library with Your Child.

The following Library Board Member’s terms end on April 30, 2024: Randall (Nancy Kemp), Paddock Lake (John Poole), Salem Lakes (Amee Janus). Director Briese will inform the municipalities.

10. Correspondence

The Town of Randall’s attorney, John Bjelajac, emailed Director Briese a copy of the Town’s Notice of Withdrawal from the Community Library with the effective date of withdrawal, per the Agreement, at the end of the day on December 31, 2025. The Library Board also received a thank you card from a library employee thanking them for the appreciation gift card that was given to all library employees in December 2023. Gift cards were given to staff in lieu of a staff dinner, in which only half the staff attend.

11. Standing committee reports

- a. **Asset Inventory & Facilities** – None
- b. **Personnel & Finance** – None
- c. **Policy & Services** – None
- d. **Foundations & Memorials** – None

12. New business – None

13. Friends of the Library report

Trustee Czischke stated the Friends made \$550 at their February book sale. Their annual meeting was held on February 9. Their Spring Bling Fling fundraiser will be held April 12, 13 & 19, 20. The last day to donate costume jewelry for the sale is April 5.

14. Date, time and location for the next meeting – Monday, March 25, 2024 at Twin Lakes at 5:30pm.

15. Adjournment

President Janus adjourned the meeting at 6:16pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Director Briese.