



MINUTES

Library Board

February 2/18/2026

7:00 pm

Berkey Public Library (3155 Coolidge)

Present:

Carol Hermann Margaret McGee Amanda Rohda

Rita VanBrandeghen Matt Church, Library Director

Ross Gavin, City Liasson

Absent:

Christina Grimm

I. Call to order: The meeting was called to order at 7:00PM

II. Public comments: Crystal VanVleck, City Manager

- Official introduction to the board
- Provided city updates: Budget; Strategic Plan; and Board & Commissions Policies

III. Minutes of the January 21st 2026 meeting were approved. Margaret moved to accept and Carol seconded. Board unanimously approved as printed.

IV. Librarian's Report:

- Study rooms opened to the public at the beginning of January.
- The library hosted its first wedding on January 23. The wedding was held before the library opened to the public.
- The library raised \$230 from the Giving Tree toward the purchase of additional VoxBooks. The Friends of the library donated additional \$800 to complete the purchases.
- Berkley is participating as a Great Michigan Read lending partner. The library has two book club kits available for this year's book, *Everything I Learned, I Learned in a Chinese Restaurant*.
- Messy Playtime continues to be a big success – 38 people attended January's snow and ice play.
- Berkley NHS and Friends President/Vice President hosted two SAT prep sessions. A total of 24 teens attended.
- The library hosted its first Arts & Crafts swap. It was a big success!

- TLN and Southfield Library will be hosting a screening of The Librarians on 2/26 at the Southfield Library.

V. Old business

A. Circulation

- Berkley resident and total circulation continues to trend up monthly.
- The Friends approved \$1,000 to establish a board and card game section in the library. It will be housed next to the puzzle section.

VI. New business

A. Boards & Commissions applicant process

- City Council recently had their first round of interviews utilizing the new process
 - Process seemed to go well
- Interview process still a work in progress
 - Matt will be meeting with the City to go over process. He will report back to the Board.

B. Bulletin Board and Free Literature Policy

- Matt presented a new policy for the community boards located in the library's lobby, which includes time limits and approval process.
- The board will vote on approval once City Legal has approved.

VII. Update from City Council liaison

- Council work sessions will be on 3/25 & 3/26 at 5:30pm in the Public Safety Conference Room. Public is welcome.
- In March, the Council will be attending the Municipal League Council conference
- Judge Kowalkowski is coming to the next council meeting to give an update on the District Court.

VIII. Adjourn

1. Moved by Amanda, seconded by Carol
2. 7:41PM Adjourn

Minutes submitted by Amanda Rohda

Next meeting: Wednesday, March 18, 2026 at 7:00PM