

LIBRARY BOARD OF THE BOROUGH OF OAKMONT

MINUTES

April 8, 2026

Present: Caitlyn Boland, Ann Buechli, Ann Galm, Candace Hill, Maggie Soff, Laura Spisak, Emily Stimmel, and Alex Taylor.

Absent: No one.

Chair Ann Galm called the meeting to order at 5:34 PM.

Presentation on Endowment Fund Account

- Derek Evans, Financial Advisor at Wells Fargo, presented the 2025 year in review for the endowment fund account, as well as an overview of recent market trends. This is the annual report to the board.
- The library's endowment account has been conservatively allocated, so it has outperformed the benchmark in recent months.
- There has been significant volatility in the market, and expect more to come. However, he recommends keeping the current investment allocation, as it is a good balance to buffer against market volatility while also earning returns.
- There was a discussion about the upcoming building renovations. Derek recommended keeping six months of cash on hand to cover anticipated needs, so will continue to stay in touch as the capital campaign planning committee starts to meet.

Regular Business

The March minutes were reviewed and a few typos were noted. Rebecca moved that the minutes be approved with those edits. Laura seconded. Minutes were unanimously approved.

Financial Report

Ann B. presented March financial statements:

- The overall budget continues to show solid progress compared to budget.
- Building repairs and maintenance expenses are \$16,770 year to date, which is 48% of the annual budget already for that expense line. Significant payments were to

Servicemaster for cleanup of a major leak and to McKamish for HVAC repair. An insurance claim was submitted to cover damages from the leak.

- Under major expenditures, \$14,085 was paid to GBBN year to date for building assessment and planning.
- Anticipated revenue in April is the monthly RAD allocation, and the Borough usually makes its transfer to the library budget in May.

Staff reports

All staff reports were reviewed. The board recognized all the great work happening, including preparations for the 125th anniversary and summer reading.

- KDKA will be in the library next week to film Kelsey for a programming showcasing what libraries offer beyond books, including programs, the playroom, art gallery, makerspace, and the pop-up food pantry last fall.

Director's report

The board reviewed Caitlyn's report and statistics.

- Interviews are ongoing for a makerspace staff person and are close to finalizing a hire, hopefully to start in mid-May.
- Caitlyn will be hosting Oakmont and Verona Borough Council members on Saturday April 18 for a tour of the building, and will find an alternate date as well.
- Caitlyn will be presenting about the library to the Lions Club on April 21, and will mention the upcoming building project.
- Library directors will be meeting soon with state legislators, Rep. McAndrew and Sen. Costa, for the annual state budget ask. Caitlyn asked board directors and library supporters to contact their representatives and continue to advocate for an annual increase in state level funding. There were significant cuts to library funding in the early 2000s, and if state library funding had kept up with inflation, annual state funding for libraries would be more than \$135 million. State funding for libraries in 2025-2026 was \$75.47M, equivalent to 2000 levels before the first significant cut.

Chair report

Ann G. and Rebecca gave an update on the Taste of Two Towns fundraiser planning as the committee co-chairs. 15-16 restaurants will participate. The planning committee is confirming donations in the coming weeks to put together baskets. Oakmont Borough

Council's Youth Representative is helping to coordinate high school volunteers, including a photographer. The committee will set up on Saturday morning before the Sunday event.

Verona update

Nothing to report this month.

Other discussion

There will be an initial meeting to discuss capital campaign planning later in April. The committee includes Caitlyn, several board members, and a community member with lots of experience in major projects in Oakmont.

As part of an ongoing review of all policies, Caitlyn reviewed best practices shared by the Allegheny County Library Association on ICE in libraries. After a discussion, Caitlyn will present an updated version for review at a future meeting.

Action items

- Contact state representatives to encourage support for an increase in library funding in the annual state budget.
- Caitlyn will revise the draft policy on ICE in libraries to present at a future meeting.
- The capital campaign planning committee will meet later in April.

There being no further business, Rebecca moved to adjourn. Ann G. seconded. The meeting adjourned at 7:08 pm.

The next regular board meeting will be Wednesday May 13, 2026 at 5:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Alex Taylor