REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

A meeting of the Board of Library Trustees of the La Grange Park Public Library District, June 17, 2026 was held at 7:00pm, at the La Grange Park Public Library, 555 N. La Grange Road, La Grange Park, IL 60526.

1. President Demes-O'Brien called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm**.**
2. Upon roll call the following were present: President Demes-O'Brien, Vice-President Whitman, Treasurer Hightower, Secretary Snow, and Trustees Gies, Krall, and Sifuentes. Also present were Executive Director Gabe Oppenheim and Patricia Harwood, Meeting Stenographer.
3. Pledge of Allegiance
4. Introduction of Visitor(s): Children's Department Reference Assistant Beth Skolba.
5. Public Comment:
6. Staff Reports: Children's Department Reference Assistant Beth Skolba said that she has been with the library for 64 days. Skolba stated that the staff, board, and patrons have been very supportive. She also mentioned that she took over the Community Caring Cards program from former Children's Librarian Margaret. Since she started, 181 cards have been distributed to hospitalized children, nursing home residents, and others in need. She added that the library has 403 participants in the summer reading program thus far, and 4 babies have started the Read 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten program. Finally, she said that she is working on a checklist for teen volunteers. Director Oppenheim stated that the Pet Parade was a lot of fun and appreciated all of those who came out. He also informed the board that the library will host the Village's "Lunch with the Village" State of the Village event on July 22, 2026. Finally, he mentioned that Amy Hernandez started in Tech Services and Rosie Vilanova is back for the summer working as a page.
7. Trustee reports: None.
8. Snow motioned, seconded by Gies, to approve the Consent Agenda. Motion passed with 7 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Abstain, 0 Absent. Snow, Gies, Sifuentes, Krall, Hightower, Whitman, and Demes-O'Brien.
   a. Minutes of previous meeting(s)
   b. Invoices to be paid in the amount of $25,999.82
   c. Checks from Wintrust Bank numbered: 38355-38386
9. Unfinished business:
   a. Gies motioned, seconded by Hightower, to approve the working budget for FY27. Motion passed with 7 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Abstain, 0 Absent. Gies, Hightower, Sifuentes, Krall, Snow, Whitman, and Demes-O'Brien.
   b. Discussion of Cook County Tax Situation-The board discussed the County's software system woes. Oppenheim said that, though the second installment tax bills are going to be at least two months late, the library will not be adversely affected. He also said that there is no information as to when the software will be fully functional.
10. New Business:
    a. Sifuentes motioned, seconded by Whitman, to approve Insurance proposal from Relation Insurance for FY 27. Motion passed. All in favor.
    b. Snow motioned, second by Hightower, approve to appoint two trustees to audit secretary's books, Trustees Gies, and Whitman volunteered. Motion passed. All in favor.
11. Communications: (includes emails to the board) – None

12. Executive Session for Semi-Annual Closed Session Minutes Review 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(21)- Discussion of minutes of meetings lawfully closed under this Act, whether for purposes of approval by the body of the minutes or semi-annual review of the minutes as mandated by Section 2.06 and for Personnel Review 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(21) - Appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees. Gies motioned, seconded by Krall, to move into Executive Session at 7:15pm. All in favor, motion passed.
13. Sifuentes motioned, seconded by Krall, to reconvene into Regular session at 8:06pm. All in favor.
14. Final Action on Executive session-
    a. Gies motioned, seconded by Snow, to approve the eliminating verbatim closed session meeting minutes from August 21, 2024 and October 16, 2024. All in favor, motion passed.
    b. Snow motioned, seconded by Sifuentes, to approve the executive session meeting minutes from January 21, 2026. All in favor, motion passed.
    c. Gies motioned, seconded by Sifuentes, to approve the Executive Director's annual review and pay increase to $106,080 annually. All in favor, motion passed.
15. No further business adjournment- Gies motioned, seconded by Krall, to adjourn. All in favor, motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 8:10pm.