Red Wing Library Board of Trustees
Regular Meeting
City Council Chambers
March 11, 2026

Members Present: Library Board President Natasha Yates; Board Members Sara Kern, Amanda Motschke, Hannah Paul, Catherine Friend, Ron Skjong, Joan Heineman, and Kim Emery

Members Absent: Jacqueline West (Excused)

Others Present: Dan Brower, Library Director; Gary Iocco, Mayor; Chris Heineman, City Administrator; Peter Haug, FOL Representative

1. **Call to Order**
   Library Board President Natasha Yates called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. **Pledge of Allegiance**
   President Yates led the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. **Excusal of Members**
   President Yates noted that Member West's absence is excused.

4. **Swearing in of Library Board Members Hannah Paul and Sara Kern**
   Mayor Gary Iocco swore in Member Sara Kern.

   Mayor Gary Iocco swore in Member Hannah Paul.

   Mayor Gary Iocco thanked the Board Members for their service and dedication to the City.

5. **Approval of Agenda**
   A motion was made by Member Friend, seconded by Member Skjong, to approve the Agenda as presented. A vote was conducted, and the motion carried unanimously by a vote of 8:0.

6. **Consent Agenda**
   A. **Motion to Approve the January 14, 2026, Library Board Meeting Minutes.**
   B. **Motion to Approve the February 11, 2026, Library Board Meeting Workshop Minutes.**
   C. **Motion to Approve January & February 2026 Bills.**

   A motion was made by Member Skjong, seconded by Member Heineman, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. A vote was conducted, and the motion carried unanimously by a vote of 8:0.

7. **Public Comment**
   There was no public comment.

8. **Motions & General Business**
   A. **Consider Motion to Approve the 2026 Rules of Order and Policies for Boards, Commissions, and Committees in Accordance with the City Charter, Section 5.04.**
   Library Director Brower discussed the changes between the 2025 and 2026 Rules of Order and Policies.

   Member Friend asked if she was understanding correctly that there would no longer be a Council Liaison to the Library Board. Director Brower stated that the only Commissions that will have Council Liaisons are the Boards of Authority and the Charter Commission.

   Member Friend asked if Director Brower would give a verbal or written report to the City Council related to what is occurring at the library. Director Brower noted that both of those options would be feasible.

   Member Friend stated she believes that a verbal report is necessary and noted she is concerned that not everyone reads a written report, and expressed that she is saddened that there is no longer a Council Liaison.

   A motion was made by President Yates, seconded by Member Skjong, to Approve the 2026 Rules of Order and Policies for Boards, Commissions, and Committees in Accordance with the City Charter, Section 5.04. A vote was conducted, and the motion carried unanimously by a vote of 8:0.

   B. **Consider Motion to Approve Letter to City Council Regarding Council Liaisons.**
   Director Brower provided a brief overview related to the item and invited City Administrator Heineman to provide more context.

   City Administrator Heineman noted his excitement to be in attendance and discussed why the Council Liaison changes were made and the status update process.

   Member Heineman asked Director Brower if having a Council Liaison is beneficial for him and discussed the positives and negatives of the new process. Director Brower stated it doesn't greatly affect him, but did note the Library Board would potentially miss pertinent updates from the Council.

   Member Friend noted residents' concerns and the desire to keep communication avenues open. She also commented on the Board's minimal time commitment and voiced her support for sending the letter to Council.

   Member Heineman asked why the Sheldon Theater Board is mentioned in the letter, and believes they should write their own letter. Director Brower stated that he included them, but commented that he can remove them and allow them to write their own letter.

Member Friend asked Member Heineman if she would be more comfortable approving the letter if references to the Sheldon were removed. Member Heineman stated yes.

President Yates noted that the Sheldon was included because they are under the same category.

Member Heineman asked if the Sheldon does hiring. Director Brower stated yes and reiterated that they are in the same category.

A motion was made by Member Friend, seconded by Member Kern, to Approve a Letter to City Council Regarding Council Liaisons with references to Sheldon Theater removed. A vote was conducted, and the motion carried unanimously by a vote of 8:0.

C. Motion to Approve the 2025 Minnesota Public Library Annual Report for the Red Wing Public Library.

Director Brower highlighted notable library accomplishments in 2025.

Member Emery asked if the increased lending would continue and if those numbers make it rational to increase Staffing. Director Brower stated that lending varies by year, and the increased lending may have been due to a migration to new software. He commented on the library's unique collections and the dividends of what is lent versus borrowed. He noted that to assess hiring, he would need to track lending revenue for another year.

A motion was made by Member Friend, seconded by Member Skjong, to approve the 2025 Minnesota Public Library Annual Report for the Red Wing Public Library. A vote was conducted, and the motion carried unanimously by a vote of 8:0.

D. Consider Motion to Approve Revisions to the Library's Memorial Fund Policy.

Director Brower discussed the Policy changes and why the changes are being made.

A motion was made by President Yates, seconded by Member Emery, to Approve Revisions to the Library's Memorial Fund Policy. A vote was conducted, and the motion carried unanimously by a vote of 8:0.

E. Consider Motion to Approve Revisions to the Library's Fine Arts Policy.

Director Brower discussed the Policy changes and why the changes are being made.

A motion was made by President Yates, seconded by Member Heineman, to consider the motion to Approve Revisions to the Library's Fine Arts Policy. A vote was conducted, and the motion carried unanimously by a vote of 8:0.

F. Consider Motion to Approve Revisions to the Library's ADA Policy.
Director Brower discussed the Policy changes and why the changes are being made.

A motion was made by Member Friend, seconded by Member Skjong, to Approve Revisions to the Library's ADA Policy. A vote was conducted, and the motion carried unanimously by a vote of 8:0.

G. Consider Motion to Approve Revisions to the Library's Guidelines for Use.
Director Brower discussed the Guidelines for Use changes and why the changes are being made.

Member Heineman asked if the face covering changes were being made due to Staff safety concerns. Director Brower stated yes.

Member Kern asked if there are concerns from Staff regarding non-compliant patrons. Director Brower stated the Staff just had a very long discussion regarding this topic and Staff procedures.

President Yates noted the posted guidelines should help mitigate issues.

Member Heineman commented on the language in the guidelines that denotes head coverings, but not full-face coverings, for religious reasons. Director Brower stated he interprets the language to include full-face coverings for religious reasons, but can add language to be clearer. He also stated that he would like to add furniture to the list of items that can be misused.

A motion was made by President Yates, seconded by Member Kern, to Approve Revisions to the Library's Guidelines for Use with the inclusion of language to add face-coverings for religious reasons. A vote was conducted, and the motion carried unanimously by a vote of 8:0.

H. Consider Motion to Approve Revisions to the Library's Meeting Room Policy.
A motion was made by President Yates, seconded by Member Friend, to table the Motion to Approve Revisions to the Library's Meeting Room Policy till the April Workshop. A vote was conducted, and the motion carried unanimously by a vote of 8:0.

I. 2026 Committee Assignments.
Director Brower noted that if there's interest in a Committee, to let the Board President know, and they can be appointed at the April Workshop.

9. **Communication Items**

   A. **Director's Report.**

   Director Brower highlighted topics from his report:

   - Director Brower discussed the RFID gate damage and noted that the damage is being filed with the City's insurance. He commented that the new gate should be installed by mid-April.
   - Director Brower discussed adding a non-voting student member to the Board.
   - Director Brower noted the week of April 19 as Library Week and discussed the theme.
   - Director Brower stated the Board will have a brand enhancement presentation at the April workshop.
   - Director Brower highlighted that Live From the Stacks Big Turn Music Festival had a huge turnout.

   B. **Library Board President's Report.**

   There was no report.

   C. **SELCO.**

   The SELCO Board Representative was not in attendance.

   D. **City Council Liaison Report.**

   There was no report.

   E. **Friends of the Library.**

   Friends of the Library Representative Haug noted that things are going well. Director Brower stated the Spring book sale is April 1 through April 3.

   F. **Fine Arts Committee.**

   There was no report.

   G. **Personnel Committee.**

   There was no report.

   H. **Long-Range Planning Committee.**

   There was no report.

   I. **Budget Committee.**

   There was no report.

   J. **Board Member Comments.**

   Board Members were offered an opportunity to provide book reviews.

   Member Emery discussed *Chasing Evil* by John Edward, describing a partnership between a psychic and the FBI.

Member Motschke discussed *Bat Eater and Other Names for Cora Zeng*, by Kylie Baker, describing it as a horror genre with someone experiencing racial discrimination.

Member Friend discussed her own book titled *Brief Encounters: Shorter Nonfiction for Shorter Memories*, a book for those who can't read an entire book.

Member Heineman discussed *Heaven and Earth Grocery Store* by James McBride, about different communities dealing with a young man navigating racial prejudice.

President Yates discussed *Flight Behavior* by Barbara Kingsolver, describing a young wife and mother on a failing farm in Tennessee who experiences a natural event that changes her course.

Member Skjong discussed *Colvill Smiled*, describing an impactful story of Gettysburg.

Member Kern discussed *Anita da Monte Laughs Last*, describing it as a representation of domestic violence and misogyny in the arts realm.

Member Paul discussed *Postmortem* by Patricia Cornwell, noting the book unpacks sexism through the main character, who is a medical examiner.

Director Brower discussed *Future Boy*, describing it as a book discussing how the movie Back to the Future was made.

Friends of the Library representative Haug stated he is reading *Power Broker*, a biography of Bob Moses.

K. Announcements.
There were no announcements.

L. Attachments.

10. Adjournment
A motion was made by President Yates to adjourn the meeting.
The meeting adjourned at 7:16 p.m.

ATTEST:

Joan Heineman, Secretary