

Ishpeming Carnegie Public Library

Board Minutes January 15, 2026

Present: Elyse Bertucci, Darren Boldt, Paul Olson, Kaylee Reno and Brooke Routhier. Jesse Shirtz, Library Director was present. Absent: none. Public: none.

Meeting called to order at 7:01 PM.

Motion by Elyse Bertucci supported by Darren Boldt to approve the November 20, 2025 meeting minutes as presented. Motion passed.

Public Participation: none.

Librarian's Report:

Jesse Shirtz, Library Director, presented information, monthly progress report, statistical report and library report for December. A total of 29 programs were offered in December with 564 attendees. Total program attendance in 2025 was 9,355 attendees. A winter reading program is underway as is a puzzle challenge. Unique Management continues to provide significant value and returns many items to the library. Youth and adult outreach programs and other efforts continued and are increasing library resource access.

- Circulation: Attendance in December was just over 2,000 and is in line with past Decembers. Roughly 10% of the total library material was in circulation.
- Calendar of events: draft Calendar of events for January was provided.
- Budget report: The budget for 2026 was provided.
- Book bills: Book invoices were reviewed and signed by the library board.
- Friends of the Library: Association of Friends of the Ishpeming Carnegie Public Library (FOL) held a book sale in December and will meet again in March 2026.
- Sustainable Shelves: This service is no longer available and is being replaced by Better World Books.
- Beanstack: Information on accounts and activities was provided by age group.

Presentations: None.

Committee Reports:

- The Sustainability Committee met several times since the November meeting and provided updates on drafts for revised Township contracts, letters to the township supervisor, township return on investment and statistics. The goal is to increase Township financial participation over time to reach the required 3/10th of a mill funding level. Motion by Brooke Routhier, second by Elyse Bertucci to present the draft material to City staff for their consideration. Motion passed.

Communications:

- None

Unfinished Business:

- Policy manual review, revision and updating is ongoing. The Meeting Room Policy is with the City Attorney for feedback on the need for an indemnification clause. Board of trustees Bylaws is awaiting feedback from the City. Several other policies will be on upcoming meetings.

- Tousignant donation: A list of potential projects (enhance and enrich: table lights, e readers, more computers for patrons, picture rail, chairs with chargers, reading pod) is still being developed and should be prioritized in 2026. Annual distributions no later than 2028.
- The Children's room redesign (FOL will cover up to \$15,000 for the renovation plan). No update this month.
- Capital Improvement items submitted for consideration to the City:
 1. Heating system replacement – This item will be removed from the Capital request as the project has been approved for 2026 based on the system failure in late 2025.
 2. Front steps/pillar deterioration repair
 3. Children's room redesign and renovation. The heating work will allow this to proceed.
 4. Computer replacement – budget annual capital replacement at 3 per year.
 5. Glass floor repairs.
 6. Tile floor repairs and carpeting replacement.
 7. Roof replacement fund allocation in preparation for full replacement in 2034 to 2039. The repairs completed in 2024 should provide 10-15 more years of service.

New Business:

A motion was made by Kaylee Reno and seconded by Darren Bold to accept the 2024 State Aid Report as presented. Motion passed.

Public Participation: none.

Next meeting is February 19, 2026 7:00 PM in person at the Library.

A motion was made by Darren Boldt and seconded by Elyse Bertucci at 8:01 PM to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted by,

Brooke Routhier