

Ishpeming Carnegie Public Library

Board Minutes August 20, 2026

Present: Elyse Bertucci, Darren Boldt, Paul Olson, and Kaylee Reno with Brooke Routhier attending via Zoom as a non-quorum attendee. Jesse Shirtz, Library Director was present. Absent: none. Public: none.

Meeting called to order at 7:01 PM.

Motion by Paul Olson supported by Kaylee Reno to approve the July 16, 2026 meeting minutes as presented. Motion passed with Brooke Routhier not voting.

Public Participation: None.

Presentations: None.

Librarian's Report:

Jesse Shirtz, Library Director, presented information, monthly progress report, statistical report and library report for July. It was a very busy month with close to 4,000 attendees. The summer reading programing was popular and well attended. Full summer reading program statistics will be shared soon. School resuming has increased the number of book requests especially for home school families. The library used a grant to purchase a scanner for photos and slides that will be available for check out. 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. Bean stack information was provided and showed a continuing increasing reading trend. The microfilm scanner purchased iwht the Carnegie gift arrived and has already been used by a library patron. The heating system repairs are complete with an added benefit the new, smaller heating equipment providing more useable storage space. One of the AC units was not working and was repaired under warranty thanks to the persistence of city maintenance staff. The City Council has forwarded a mileage proposal for Library Services for the November election. The library has a new clerk and appreciates having that position filled.

- Circulation: Attendance in July was close to 4,000. Roughly 12% of the total library material was in circulation. A total of 63 new library cards were issued. The teen program attendance has grown and more programming is being requested by the group.
- Calendar of events: The draft calendar of events for September was provided. September is "Library card sign up" month.
- Budget report: Budget information was provided from the City and is in line for the year.
- 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) has not met since the last Library board meeting. The next FOL meeting is scheduled for September 10 with a book sale to follow in September 11 and 12.

Committee Reports: None.

Communications: None

Unfinished Business:

- Discussed Library Board Secretary's new work schedule and conflict with some in person board meetings. Current guidance suggests that Zoom attendance would be acceptable but may not allow voting or consideration towards the board quorum.
- Policy manual review, revision and updating is ongoing. Waiting on city attorney input on several.
- 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

prioritized in 2026. Annual distributions no later than 2028. An additional project to consider could be digitizing the library's historic newspapers. The library will have a student intern from Westwood this year that could start the project.

- 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: No update this month.
 1. Front steps/pillar deterioration repair
 2. Children's room redesign and renovation. The heating work will allow this to proceed.
 3. Computer replacement – budget annual capital replacement at 3 per year.
 4. Glass floor repairs.
 5. Tile floor repairs and carpeting replacement.
 6. 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.
- Second Reading of the Library Card Policy was held. A motion was made by Darren Boldt and supported by Kaylee Reno to accept the second reading. Motion passed with two yes votes and one no vote with Brooke Routhier not voting.
- The Second Reading of the Circulation Policy was held. A motion was made by Elyse Bertucci and supported by Kaylee Reno to accept the second reading with minor edits to have the fines reference the fee schedule. Motion passed with Brooke Routhier not voting.

New Business:

- Schedule overview and Q&A from the Community Fund of Marquette will be schedule to help prepare for the Tousignant Endowment.
- A request was made to suspend library card charge (\$2.00 per card) for September "Library card sign up" month. A motion was made by Elyse Bertucci and supported by Darren Boldt to allow suspension of the \$2.00 per new library card fee for September. Motion passed with Brooke Routhier not voting.
- Training is available that can be scheduled for the September meeting to help guide the Library staff and board members on how to discuss the upcoming mileage as there are restriction to factual information only. The communication provided from the City was provided.

Public Participation: none.

Next meeting is September 17, 2026 at 7:00 PM in person at the Library.

A motion was made by Paul Olson and seconded by Kaylee Reno at 8:29 PM to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted by Brooke Routhier & Elyse Bertucci