

**Brentwood Public Library  
Board of Trustees Meeting  
March 10, 2026**

**CALL TO ORDER - ROLL CALL FOR QUORUM**

President Ed Wright called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m. Board members present were Ed Wright (President), Kathy Ryan (Vice President), Lori Ashmore-Ruppel (Secretary), Megan Moss (Treasurer), Angela BoClair, Kelsey Burkemper, Beth Miller Erman, and Mary Stevens. Laura McAllister was absent from the meeting. A quorum was present. Gina Gibbons, Library Director, and Sharon Harter, the aldermanic liaison, were also present.

**ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA**

A motion was made to accept the agenda by M. Stevens and seconded by K. Ryan. All vote aye.

**MINUTES OF THE MAY MEETING**

The minutes of February 10, 2026, are accepted by E. Wright as submitted.

**READING OF PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Visitors at the meeting included the Brentwood Middle School Esports team, led by their coach, Nick Metropoulos. The middle schoolers attended the meeting to ask whether there would be space for esports in the new library. There is currently an esports facility in Florrisant (Fusion 314) that is operated by the Parks and Recreation Department. The team was also curious to see whether there was space for a makerspace. There are two potential options: a space for occasional esports events or a dedicated, consistent space. The team is wondering about converting the current library space into an esports facility. The aldermanic liaison invited the team to bring this idea to the next aldermanic meeting.

**ALDERMANIC LIAISON'S REPORT**

On March 11, the QUAD Chamber of Commerce is hosting a Brentwood Business Exchange at 5 p.m. This includes Webster Groves, Shrewsbury, Rock Hill and Brentwood. Brentwood has introduced e-bike regulations, including rules on where you can and cannot ride them. There will be signs posted around the city and found on the city website. On March 25, the high school is hosting the Brentwood Senior Brunch.

**LIBRARY DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

The Circulation Manager will be on extended medical leave. The library received a new \$500 grant from the Missouri Intellectual Freedom Helpline for a Pride event. The library is participating in the Pride & Joy event at the Living Room in Maplewood again this summer. Maplewood Library and Richmond Heights Library will also be in the MLC booth at this kid-centric pride event. With the grant money, the library will host a hair-styling booth featuring a queer stylist.

The book club author, Michelle Collins Anderson, attended the book club past Tuesday about her book *The Flower Sisters*. Michelle gave an hour-long presentation on the true history behind her novel set in West Plains, MO. She now lives in St. Louis.

The Athletes and Performers Fund will be reduced by 50% of the past funding from the state aid category. This would account for the \$3500 cut.

Sarah has created a plan to help streamline our teen volunteer process through the website. She immediately has four volunteers, and there is now a station where they can understand the task they are assigned.

The library is adding additional online news sources - America's Newspapers - which includes USA Today and newspapers from Kansas City, Columbia, and Jefferson City as well as many other national news outlets.

## OLD BUSINESS

### Update on the New Building

E. Wright attended the construction meeting on March 10. Jen and Wesley from Navigate, along with a representative from Arcturis, were present and asked excellent questions. Construction is a week behind, but they are working on Saturday and bringing in an extra crew member. The brick library sign will go up in the next 2-3 weeks.

There was some water on the west wall near the old garage door. ICS is developing a solution. There will be no water leak in the new building. The water drainage issues on the west and southwest side are not the library's responsibility, per our attorney. These were issues before the library bought the building.

ICS is getting prices on the time capsule. The book chain might happen in September if the building is ready early.

### Community Relations Committee

K. Ryan is creating notes regarding the shelf donation and the book chain for collaboration with staff. The library opening committee needs both staff and library board members. The board members will combine the Community Relations Committee and the Library Opening Committee, along with staff members. If others are interested in participating, they should contact K. Ryan.

### Strategic Planning Implementation Committee

The committee will involve staff and board members. Board members should contact L. McAllister or B. Miller Erman if they would like to serve on the committee.

### Employee Milestones

A schedule for employee milestone celebrations was proposed as follows: every five years of service, the Brentwood Public Library will give the employee a \$100 gift card of their choice. The amount will not change, but every five years, the employee will receive a \$100 gift card. The library will pay the taxes on the gift card amount. The motion to compensate employee anniversaries according to the schedule herein was moved by K. Ryan and seconded by M. Moss. All vote aye.

The proposed plan for employee recognition at retirement states that the Brentwood Public Library will recognize full-time and part-time employees who retire from the library based on the following criteria:

- For 5-10 years of service, they will receive 15 hours of pay
- For 11-15 years of service, they will receive 22.5 hours of pay
- For 16+ years of service, they will receive 30 hours of pay

These numbers are based on common practices for libraries in the area. The motion to compensate employees who retire according to the schedule herein was moved by B. Miller Erman, seconded by M. Moss. All vote aye.

The Brentwood Public Library will recognize employee birthdays by honoring one paid hour of leave during the week of their birthday. A motion to provide the proposed birthday compensation was moved by K. Ryan and seconded by B. Miller Erman. All vote aye.

### Friends of BPL

The library board would like to pursue the Friends of BPL idea, but at this time, it is focused on the library opening. The idea will be tabled for discussion on this idea, but board members can reach out to people who might be interested in joining the group.

### TREASURER'S REPORT

A big thanks to M. Moss for her treasurer work. Building finances are doing well. Another large amount of tax income was received, so money was moved from the checking account into the savings account. The library assets are at approximately \$9,000,000.

### NEW BUSINESS

#### Response to the Audit

The library will review the budget in May or June to make necessary adjustments to the budget accounts as suggested by the audit.

### PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

### ADJOURNMENT

The next meeting will be held on April 14, 2026, at 6:30 p.m., in the library meeting room. A motion to adjourn the meeting was made A. BoClair seconded by K. Burkemper at 7:14 p.m. All vote aye.