

**INDIANAPOLIS-MARION COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
JANUARY 27, 2025**

The Indianapolis-Marion County Public Library Board met in person at the Warren Branch Library, 9701 East 21st Street, Indianapolis, Indiana, on Monday, January 27, 2025 at 6:30 p.m. pursuant to notice given in accordance with the rules of the Board.

1. Call To Order

President Biederman called the meeting to order. In the absence of Dr. Payne, Dr. Murtadha acted as Secretary.

2. Roll Call

Members present: Mr. Biederman, Dr. Murtadha, Dr. Palacio and Dr. White.

Members absent: Dr. Payne, Dr. Riolo and Ms. Tribble.

The Chair recognized a quorum.

Mr. Biederman advised that he is the new President of the Board and this is his first meeting. As a brief introduction -- He and his wife are parents to two children. He has a degree in Music and obtained his JD from the IU Robert H. McKinney School of Law in 2009. He's an entrepreneur and an attorney celebrating ten years in business. He's an adjunct lecturer at Indiana University in the areas of data privacy and electronic discovery. He also sits on the Board of Freetown Village. Mr. Biederman commented that he was honored and humbled that his fellow Board members entrusted him with the responsibilities of Board President and that he looks forward to serving the community and ushering in the Library's new Strategic Plan.

3. Branch Manager's Report

a. Warren Branch Report

Ms. Connie Scott, Branch Manager, provided the following information about the branch:

- The Warren Branch opened for business in its current building on March 4, 1974 and they had a 50th anniversary celebration in May 2024.
- The branch has a substantial Spanish language collection. They have two librarians who speak Spanish and a computer assistant who is fluent in Haitian-Creole and French.

- The branch is known for its Community Outreach to the area day cares, schools and Far East Indy organizations. They consistently partner with CAFÉ, new immigrant populations and Moorhead Community Resource Center.
- It was noted that the branch is considered a “point of need” and people often come to have their needs met such as filling out forms, tutoring or looking for jobs.

4. **Public Comment**

a. **Public Comment** (Name and summary of comments follows)

Ms. Debora Holmes, Nurse-Family Partnership, addressed the Board and noted that the Library gives her space at the branch to share her work with the community. She visits Warren every other Friday and sets up a table to inform the community about the Nurse-Family Partnership, an organization which allows nurses to work with first-time mothers for two years for free.

Ms. Deb Ehret and Ms. Melinda Mullican, from the IndyPL Staff Association Scholarship and Program Committee, awarded scholarship funds to staff members Ms. Emily Gralak, Ms. Cori Miner, Ms. Valerie LaFave, Ms. Catrina Barnett and Ms. Amber Powell.

5. **Approval Of Minutes: Executive Session, Regular and Special Meetings**

a. **Regular Meeting, December 16, 2024**

The minutes from the Regular Meeting held December 16, 2024, were approved on the motion of Dr. White, seconded by Dr. Murtadha, and the following roll call vote:

Mr. Biederman – Aye
Dr. Murtadha – Aye

Dr. Palacio – Aye
Dr. White – Aye

COMMITTEE REPORTS

6. **Finance Committee (Dr. Eugene G. White, Chair; Dr. Khaula Murtadha, Ms. Hope C. Tribble)**

a. **Report of the Treasurer**

Dr. White thanked Mr. Biederman for promoting him from Facilities to money.

Ms. Lolita Campbell, Chief Financial Officer, and Ms. Mary Rankin, Treasurer, presented the Report of the Treasurer which noted that as of December 31, 2024, the year-to-date revenue was \$56,835,968 and the year-to-date expenditures were \$52,560,649.

The Report of the Treasurer was approved for filing for audit on the motion of Dr. Palacio, seconded by Dr. Murtadha, and the following roll call vote:

Mr. Biederman – Aye	Dr. Palacio – Aye
Dr. Murtadha – Aye	Dr. White – Aye

b. **Resolution 1 – 2025** (Disclosure of Waived Fines and Fees)

Ms. Campbell advised there was a total of \$107,251 of uncollectible fines and fees in 2024. These were waived at the branches following the Library’s debt collection process.

After full discussion and careful consideration of Resolution 1 – 2025, the resolution was approved on the motion of Dr. White, which was seconded by Dr. Murtadha, and the following roll call vote:

Mr. Biederman – Aye	Dr. Palacio – Aye
Dr. Murtadha – Aye	Dr. White – Aye

The resolution is appended to, and made a part of, these minutes.

c. **Resolution 2 – 2025** (Outstanding Purchase Orders 2024)

Ms. Campbell explained that outstanding purchase orders not paid before December 31, 2024 will be paid in fiscal year 2025. Appropriations were provided for the purchase orders in the 2024 Budget.

After full discussion and careful consideration of Resolution 2 – 2025, the resolution was approved on the motion of Dr. White, which was seconded by Dr. Murtadha, and the following roll call vote:

Mr. Biederman – Aye	Dr. Palacio – Aye
Dr. Murtadha – Aye	Dr. White – Aye

The resolution is appended to, and made a part of, these minutes.

d. **Resolution 3 – 2025** (Confirming Marion County Board of Finance)

Ms. Campbell noted that the Marion County Board of Finance will be designated to serve as the Library’s Board of Finance for 2025.

After full discussion and careful consideration of Resolution 3 – 2025, the resolution was approved on the motion of Dr. Palacio, which was seconded by Dr. Murtadha, and the following roll call vote:

Mr. Biederman – Aye	Dr. Palacio – Aye
Dr. Murtadha – Aye	Dr. White – Aye

The resolution is appended to, and made a part of, these minutes.

Other – Ms. Campbell announced that the Library had received the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting from the Government Finance Officers Association for its Annual Comprehensive Financial Report for the Year Ended December 31, 2023.

7. Diversity, Policy and Human Resources Committee (Dr. Luis A. Palacio, Chair; Dr. Patricia A. Payne, Dr. Eugene G. White)

Dr. Palacio thanked Mr. Biederman for the opportunity to chair this Committee. He advised the Diversity, Policy and Human Resources Committee did not have any items to report this month.

8. Facilities Committee (Dr. Lisa Riolo, Chair; Dr. Patricia A. Payne, Dr. Eugene G. White)

a. Resolution 4 – 2025 (Approval of First Addendum to Mechanical Services Contract with Ellis Mechanical)

Mr. Adam Parsons, Chief Operational Services Officer, explained that the Library is currently under contract with Ellis Mechanical, Inc. to provide preventive and reactive mechanical services to all IndyPL locations. Ellis Mechanical has proposed no price changes to their services. It is being recommended that the Board approve to extend the current mechanical services contract through October 10, 2025.

After full discussion and careful consideration of Resolution 4 – 2025, the resolution was approved on the motion of Dr. White, which was seconded by Dr. Murtadha, and the following roll call vote:

Mr. Biederman – Aye
Dr. Murtadha – Aye

Dr. Palacio – Aye
Dr. White – Aye

The resolution is appended to, and made a part of, these minutes.

b. Resolution 5 – 2024 (Approval of Second Addendum to Off-Duty Police Officer Services Contract with offdutycom.com, Inc.)

Mr. Parsons noted that the Library has a contract with offdutycom.com, Inc. and it was approved through the end of the year by Resolution 44 – 2024 for the second half of the year. The Library put out a RFP last year and received only two responses. Those were rejected and the Library re-advertised. We recently received four proposals for that re-advertised RFP for the off-duty police officer services. In between, discussions took place about how the Library wanted to approach off-duty police officer services. IndyPL has determined that it would like to extend our existing contract with off-duty cops by one year to the end of 2025. That will provide the Library eight months to decide how best to move forward with off-duty police officer services for the system.

After full discussion and careful consideration of Resolution 5 – 2025, the resolution was approved on the motion of Dr. White, which was seconded by Dr. Palacio, and the following roll call vote:

Mr. Biederman – Aye
Dr. Murtadha – Aye

Dr. Palacio – Aye
Dr. White – Aye

The resolution is appended to, and made a part of, these minutes.

- c. **Resolution 6 – 2024** (Approval to Award a Services Contract for Off-Duty Police Officer Services)

Mr. Parsons advised that based on further discussion, it was determined that Resolution 6 – 2025 (Approval to Award a Services Contract for Off-Duty Police Officer Services) was being withdrawn from consideration at this time.

9. **Library Foundation Update**

Ms. Roberta Jagers, President, Indianapolis Public Library Foundation, reviewed the Foundation’s Update as follows:

News

The Foundation thanks Mr. Ray Biederman for his service on our Board of Directors and we welcome Dr. Lisa Riolo as our new Trustee Representative.

Congratulations to the Library on approving a new Strategic Plan. Our Board will vote to approve our Plan at our February Meeting.

Circulate: Night at the Library tickets are on sale now! Please join us for our annual fundraiser on Friday, May 9, at Central Library. You can purchase tickets here: <https://onecau.se/circulate2025>

Donors

Major Donors last month: First Merchants Bank; IndyGo Foundation; krM Architecture; Lilly Endowment; Paganelli Law Group; Shrewsbury & Associates; The Hagerman Fund and The Swisher Foundation.

Program Support

This month the Foundation provided \$120,000 to the Library for: Meet the Artists XXXLVII – “Pearl Experience,” World Culture Celebrations, Preschool Packaged Programs and Bilingual Storytime.

10. **Report of the CEO**

- a. **Confirming Resolutions**

- 1) **Resolution Regarding Finances, Personnel and Travel (7 – 2025)**

After full discussion and careful consideration of Resolution 7 – 2025, the resolution was approved on the motion of Dr. White, which was seconded by Dr. Palacio, and the following roll call vote:

Mr. Biederman – Aye
Dr. Murtadha – Aye

Dr. Palacio – Aye
Dr. White – Aye

The resolution is appended to, and made a part of, these minutes.

b. Report of the CEO – January 2025

Mr. Gregory Hill, the Library’s CEO, discussed information contained in his Report which included the following:

- Tap Tap Evening: A Haitian Cultural Event offered attendees an opportunity to explore Haiti’s Haitian Creole language through history, culture, arts, storytelling and music. A total of 121 attendees joined the first event at Glendale in July. The event was held again at Central Library in December, welcoming 121 visitors.
- The AARP Foundation Tax-Aide Program at Fort Ben offered tax filing services to 720 visitors. Additionally, 280 attendees learned about tax law and successfully filed their returns.
- The 9th Annual Dia del Nino at *Be My Neighbor Day* brought 1,235 people to Central Library on April 27. Activities included a sensory-friendly play hour, concerts by 123 Andres, a toddler dance party, and storytimes in both English and Spanish.

Other – Mr. Hill announced that he had created a new special symbol of recognition to celebrate the achievements of Library staff. It is the “CEO Coin,” a token of appreciation that reinforces a culture of excellence. The CEO awards these coins to staff who go above and beyond in their work. At the meeting he honored the following:

- Ms. Kelly Donoho for her videography skills, her work on creating digital signage and her ability to put people at ease in front of the camera;
- Ms. Connie Scott for her outstanding contributions to outreach, resource fairs and community partnerships; and
- Ms. Linda Kopernak for her long-standing dedication to the Library,

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

11. None.

NEW BUSINESS

12. None.

DISCUSSION AND AGENDA BUILDING

- 13. Future Agenda Items** – This time is made available for discussion of items not on the Agenda which are of interest to the Library Board members and the opportunity to suggest items to be included on future Library Board Meeting Agendas.

- There were no items suggested.

14. Notice of Special Meetings

None.

15. Notice of Next Regular Meeting

Monday, February 24, 2025, at the West Perry Branch Library, 6650 South Harding, at 6:30 p.m.

16. Adjournment

The Secretary announced that there was no further business to come before the Board.

The Chairman then declared the meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

INFORMATION

17. Materials

None.

18. Board Meeting Schedule for 2025 (Notice of Date and Place of Meeting) and Upcoming Events

- a. **Board Meeting Schedule** for 2025 will be updated as necessary.
- b. **Library Programs/Free Upcoming Events** may be found at attend.indypl.org.

The January 27, 2025 Indianapolis Public Library Board Meeting is available to view at:

<https://www.indypl.org/about-the-library/board-meeting-times-committees>

