INDIANAPOLIS-MARION COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
SEPTEMBER 28, 2026

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The Indianapolis-Marion County Public Library Board met in person at the Glendale Branch Library, 3660 East 62nd Steet, Indianapolis, Indiana 46220, on Monday, September 28, 2026 at 6:30 p.m., pursuant to notice given in accordance with the rules of the Board.

1. Call To Order

Mr. Biederman presided as President and called the meeting to order. In the absence of Dr. Riolo, Ms. Johnson acted as Secretary.

2. Roll Call

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

Members absent: Dr. Riolo.

The Chair recognized a quorum.

Mr. Biederman noted that Library Card Days is a celebration about the power of the library card, from free books and resources to learning and technology, to free audiobooks, eBooks, movies and music streaming, as well as the other free opportunities available through the Indianapolis Public Library. Every returning patron is a reminder of the enduring role that libraries play in people's lives. Thank you to the Indianapolis Public Foundation for helping make this grand celebration possible and for investing in our Library. And, thanks to our staff and to our patrons for showing Indianapolis that the Library belongs to everyone.

3. Branch Manager's Report

a. Glendale Branch Report

Ms. Jena Mattix, Manager, Glendale Branch, shared information about their branch and community as follows:

- The Broad Ripple and Glendale communities have enjoyed library services at various sites since the 1930s. The Glendale Branch opened in its own stand-alone building in March 2024.

- In 2025, the Glendale Branch had over 178,000 visitors and offered 471 programs.
- Early childhood literacy programs are very popular at the branch. Programs include Baby Storytime on Tuesday and Thursday mornings. Storytimes have at least 60 people attend weekly.

Mr. Biederman asked Ms. Mattix to share a little bit about the excitement from Library Card Days.

Ms. Mattix mentioned that they had a large crowd waiting to get into the branch on Saturday morning. There was a long line of patrons at the Library Card Days table waiting to get their tote bag, cookie, key chain and other fun giveaways that were offered. She felt the patrons were very excited about Library Card Days,

4. Public Comment

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

There were no petitions to come before the Board.

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

a. **Regular Meeting, August 24, 2026**

At this time, the minutes from the Regular Meeting held August 24, 2026, were approved on the motion of Dr. White, seconded by Dr. Palacio, and the following roll call vote:

Ms. Johnson – Aye
Dr. Murtadha – Aye
Dr. Palacio – Aye
Dr. White – Aye
Ms. Woodard – Aye
Mr. Biederman, President – Aye

COMMITTEE REPORTS

6. Finance Committee (Dr. Eugene G. White, Chair; Ms. Elizabeth N. Johnson, Dr. Khaula Murtadha)

a. **Report of the Treasurer**

Ms. Lolita Campbell, Chief Financial Officer, and Ms. Mary Rankin, Accounting Director and Treasurer, shared the Report of the Treasurer for August 2026. As of August 31, 2026, the year-to-date Revenue was approximately $32,443,678 and the year-to-date Expenditures were approximately $38,089,786.

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

Ms. Johnson – Aye	Dr. White – Aye
Dr. Murtadha – Aye	Ms. Woodard – Aye
Dr. Palacio – Aye	Mr. Biederman, President – Aye

b **Resolution 33 – 2026 (Brainfuse Online Tutoring and Job Assistance Service Renewal)**

Ms. Debra Lambert. Chief Collections Management Officer, noted that, in its first year, Brainfuse services saw strong patron engagement. Patrons completed 620 HelpNow tutoring sessions and accessed HelpNow resources 6,607 times. Patrons took part in 72 JobNow coaching sessions, 75 resume and cover letter reviews and almost 3,000 JobNow resource retrievals. In total, patrons used Brainfuse services 10,368 times during the year. The annual cost of the service is $85,000.

After full discussion and careful consideration of Resolution 33 – 2026, it was noted this resolution received a favorable recommendation from the Finance Committee. Dr. Murtadha seconded the recommendation. The resolution was approved on the following roll call vote:

Ms. Johnson – Aye	Dr. White – Aye
Dr. Murtadha – Aye	Ms. Woodard – Aye
Dr. Palacio – Aye	Mr. Biederman, President – Aye

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

c. **Resolution 34 – 2026 (Approval to Negotiate and Sign Contract for Purchase of Storage Services)**

Ms. Shanika Heyward, Chief Innovation and Technology Officer, requested approval to authorize the CEO to negotiate and award a contract for the purchase of two legacy replacement storage servers, one at Central and one at the Library Services Center. The Library received two sealed bids from vendors and on July 1, 2026, the evaluation committee selected Davenport Group as the lower responsive bidder for storage services for the total amount of $366,190.

After full discussion and careful consideration of Resolution 34 – 2026, it was noted this resolution received a favorable recommendation from the Finance Committee. Dr. Murtadha seconded the recommendation. The resolution was approved on the following roll call vote:

Ms. Johnson – Aye	Dr. White – Aye
Dr. Murtadha – Aye	Ms. Woodard – Aye
Dr. Palacio – Aye	Mr. Biederman, President – Aye

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

Additionally, Ms. Campbell mentioned that she and Mr. Gregory Hill, the Library's CEO, had made a Budget and Bond Presentation to the Municipal Corporations

Committee of the City-County Council on September 23, 2026.

7. **Diversity, Policy and Human Resources Committee (Dr. Luis A. Palacio, Chair; Dr. Eugene G. White, Ms. Natissa S. Woodard)**

a. **Resolution 35 – 2026 (Update of Library of Library Policy 503 Related to Community Resources)**

Ms. Lambert advised that the Library has been updating our policies. These policies relate to Library-supported community resources, and this is where the Shared System falls, for example, we well as our Marion County Internet Library. It has been a few years since the language was updated and it is now more in alignment with our current services and practices. It also includes the Encyclopedia of Indianapolis which hadn't been included before and it updates Digital Indy. The language is being tightened to support these resources and to be more in alignment with current services.

Mr. Biederman advised that he had been informed by one of the Board members that there was a small update to 503.2 regarding adding language saying the Library would seek grants from the Foundation as well. He noted that the new language had not been included in the policy that is before the Board tonight.

Mr. Biederman requested that the language be amended as previously agreed upon at the Committee meeting. At this time, Dr. Palacio made a motion to include the amended language in the recommended policy. Ms. Woodard seconded the motion. After full discussion and careful consideration of Resolution 35 – 2026, as amended, it was noted that the resolution was approved on the following roll call vote:

Ms. Johnson – Aye	Dr. White – Aye
Dr. Murtadha – Aye	Ms. Woodard – Aye
Dr. Palacio – Aye	Mr. Biederman, President – Aye

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

8. **Facilities Committee (Dr. Lisa Riolo, Chair; Ms. Elizabeth N. Johnson, Ms. Natissa Woodard)**

a. **Resolution 36 – 2026 (Approval of Third Amendment to Mechanical Services Contract with Ellis Mechanical, Inc.)**

Mr. Adam Parsons, Chief Operational Services Officer, shared that the Library is currently under contract with Ellis Mechanical, Inc. to provide preventive and reactive mechanical services to all IndyPL locations. Ellis Mechanical, Inc. was awarded the contract for these services in 2021 and has been servicing these locations since 2022. The new annual total cost of $61,671 reflects the addition of the Fort Ben Branch and the Central Library Parking Garage exhaust fans.

After full discussion and careful consideration of Resolution 36 – 2026, it was noted this resolution received a favorable recommendation from the Facilities Committee. Ms. Woodard seconded the recommendation. The resolution was approved on the

following roll call vote:

Ms. Johnson – Aye	Dr. White – Aye
Dr. Murtadha – Aye	Ms. Woodard – Aye
Dr. Palacio – Aye	Mr. Biederman, President – Aye

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

9. Library Foundation Update

Mr. Biederman provided the Foundation Update as follows:

News
Circulate: Night at the Library is scheduled for Friday, March 12, 2027.

Donors
Major Donors last month: Clark, Quinn, Moses, Scott and Grahn, LLP, Indianapolis Authority, Indianapolis Indians and the Lacy Foundation.

Program Support
This month the Foundation provided $500,000 to the Library for: CBLC Black Health Fair, Marion County Internet Library, Lettie Oliver Collection and Paws to Breathe.

10. Report of the CEO

Mr. Hill gave his Report as follows:

a. Confirming Resolutions

1) Resolution Regarding Finances, Personnel and Travel 37 – 2026)

After full discussion and careful consideration of Resolution 37 – 2026, the resolution was approved on the motion of Dr. White, seconded by Ms. Johnson, and the following roll call vote:

Ms. Johnson – Aye	Dr. White – Aye
Dr. Murtadha – Aye	Ms. Woodard – Aye
Dr. Palacio – Aye	Mr. Biederman, President – Aye

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

b. Report of the CEO – September 2026

Mr. Hill discussed his Report which included information on programs, services and initiatives from the month of August, as follows:

- In August, the Library hosted 643 youth and adult programs, drawing more than 27,000 attendees, and 44 all-ages programs which served an additional 750 visitors.

- Mr. Hill acknowledged the Library's Social Work team for their hard work supporting the community through resource sharing and referrals.
- An update will be provided soon with Library Card Days data.
- Approximately 168 people attended the Heart of Every Neighborhood event at the Southport Branch.
- The year's final Heart of Every Neighborhood event will take place on December 14, 2026 at Central Library, 5-6:30 p.m. In 2027, the Heart of Every Neighborhood program will continue and will visit Martindale-Brightwood, West Perry, Beech Grove, Spades Park, Nora, Wayne and Central Library.
- Reminder – Staff Day is Monday, November 2, 2026, 9:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m. at Central Library.

c. **2025-2027 Strategic Plan Progress Report: Correction to Quarter 2 2026 and Prior Quarters**

This was an informational item only and will be discussed at a later date.

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.

- Dr. Murtadha commented that the Library stays in front of dealing with book banning and the controversies that arise, and she felt it would be great to know how IndyPL is standing with the larger public and the demands on disseminating information. She pointed out that a recent issue of American Libraries had a section in it on books that are considered propaganda. What ways is IndyPL responding to that pressure? How do we stand up for what is right and good? She expressed her hope that we can continue to talk about and share examples of how IndyPL handles the challenges.

14. **Notice of Special Meetings**

None.

15. Notice of Next Regular Meeting

Monday, October 26, 2026, at the Michigan Road Branch Library, 6201 North Michigan Road, Indianapolis, Indiana 46268, at 6:30 p.m.

16. Adjournment

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

The Chairman then declared the meeting adjourned at 7:44 p.m.

INFORMATION

17. Materials

a. **Notes of September 15, 2026 Diversity, Policy and Human Resources Committee Meeting.**

b. **Notes of September 15, 2026 Facilities Committee Meeting.**

c. **Notes of September 15, 2026 Finance Committee Meeting.**

18. Board Meeting Schedule for 2026 (Notice of Date and Place of Meeting) and Upcoming Events

a. **Board Meeting Schedule** for 2026 will be updated as necessary.

b. **Library Programs/Free Upcoming Events** may be found at attend.indypl.org.

The September 28, 2026 Indianapolis Public Library Board Meeting is available to view at:

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

Ms. Elizabeth N. Johnson, Acting Secretary to the Board