

Neenah Public Library Board of Trustee Meeting Minutes – January 21, 2026

The meeting of the Neenah Public Library Board of Trustees held on January 21, 2026, in the Or Lady Community Room, was called to order by Fieldhack at 4:01 p.m.

Members present: Carol Codner, Tami Erickson (Aldermanic representative), Randy Fieldhack (president), Ben Frank (Winnebago County representative), Kate Hancock-Cooke (Winnebago County representative), Lisa Hemes, Elizabeth Irish, Michael Koller (Vice President), Joshua Kutney, Jenn McMahon (Neenah Joint School District representative), Pat Rickman, Kay Doiron (teen representative), and Alivia Haller (teen representative).

Also present: Nicole Hardina-Wilhelm, director, Nancy Baird, circulation services manager, Mehta Hess, adult services manager, Katrina Wulff, youth services manager, Lori Allen (Associated Bank), Scott Jennings (Associated Bank) and Frank Cuthbert.

Minutes

On motion of Irish, seconded by Hancock-Cooke, the Board approved the Library Board meeting minutes of December 17, 2025. On a motion of Hancock-Cooke, seconded by Erickson, the Board approved the Nominations Committee meeting minutes of January 14, 2026.

Director's and Technical Services Report

Director Handrina-Wilhelm spoke about the opening of the new Roger and Nancy Or Lady Community Room, the upcoming Fox Cities Reads featuring *Remarkably Bright Creatures* by Shelby Van Pelt, and considerations for severe weather.

Department Reports

Adult Services Department

Hess talked about Zaborowske's recent successful presentation on AI to the Neenah Club, the fun of the Library After Dark: Latin Dance Party, and the record year for Book Club to Go with a 24% growth over the last year.

Circulation Services Department

Baird gave a report on the top circulating books for 2025, which were different for each of the 3 major libraries in our area, and shared that we had 24 checkouts of the new Experience Passes in December 2025.

Youth Services Department

Wulff reflected on a successful and inspiring NEWI Youth Services SLP Workshop that brought 32 librarians from around the region to Neenah Public Library, and shared excitement for the upcoming and ever-popular Stuffed Animal Clinic, which is as much fun for our teenaged nursing-student volunteers as it is for the kids.

Bills for consideration

On the motion of Fieldhack, seconded by Codner, the Board unanimously approved payment of the December bills.

2026 Library Board Officers

The nominating committee consisted of Irish and Koller. Koller presented the slate of officers for 2026: Fieldhack for President, Koller for Vice President, and Rickman for Chair of Finance and Personnel. No further nominations were presented. On a motion by Hancock-Cooke, seconded by Koller, the board unanimously approved the slate of officers as presented.

Presidential appointment of the member of the Finance and Personnel Committee

Fieldhack appointed Irish to the Finance and Personnel Committee.

Hancock-Cooke and Erickson left at 4:55.

Next regularly scheduled meeting

Wednesday, February 18 at 4:00 pm in the Orlady Community Room.

Adjournment

On motion of Hemes, seconded by Codner, the Library Board Adjourned at 5:18 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mehta Hess".

Mehta Hess