

SPRINGFIELD PUBLIC LIBRARY
LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES
February 3, 2026

Minute taker: Rebekah Weed

Attending: Robyn Loudon, Roy Burling, Violet Olszyk, Curtis Wyant, Emily David, Ofelia Guzman, Angela Stout, Rebekah Weed, Heather Millehrer-Huerta, Jim Lauinger

Absent: Sean VanGordon

- **Call to Order /Changes in the Agenda**
 - Meeting called to order at 5:32 pm
- **Five minutes to review documents**
- **Approval of January minutes**
 - Jim approved and Angela seconded
- **Business from the Audience - None**
- **Communications - None**
- **Library Director Report**
 - Any additions
 - Annual Book Sale Dates are 3/13-3/14.
 - Last night, the 21 Bookmark Contest Winners were recognized at the City Council meeting.
 - Books and Brew is planned to be on 2/21. If any board members want to help volunteer, connect with Emily.
 - Any discussion
- **Unfinished Business:**
 - Minute takers for next few months
 - March - Robyn
 - April - Angela
 - May - Jim
 - “Book Share” program update - Bekah
 - Ralene Linneman, a previous library board member and volunteer with the Friends, is going to help Bekah with the March sort and restock of the totes before they are sent back out to facilities.
 - Bekah and her husband heard good reports from the facilities about stocking more large print books and how helpful the program is for their residents.
 - Bekah is having trouble connecting with the Scout contact. Angela mentioned that both her and Violet have a connection to the same troop. She will connect with the troop leader to help spread out the responsibilities of moving the totes from each facility every 3 months.
 - Joint newsletter update –Violet
 - The latest joint newsletter went out for February. The bookshare program was mentioned in the January newsletter. Violet did a great job with the write-up.

- The group will meet up again after the newsletter goes out in March to plan the upcoming newsletters.
 - Foundation Liaison update – Roy
 - Roy mentioned that Karen Johnson, who has helped tremendously with development for the Foundation, is retiring and leaves a large space to be filled.
 - Betty, a Foundation member, has requested 2 board members to help run the Plinko game during the event from 6-9pm.
 - Roy would like to step down from being the Foundation Liaison. He has approached Jim about taking over the position. Jim has agreed and Roy will handle the handoff, connecting the Foundation members with Jim.
- **New Business:**
 - Board projects and/or focus for 2026
 - Emily shared an example of another library's annual report. This would be another way to share the impact of the library in a manageable form. Emily confirmed that this project is manageable by the library staff. Positive comments from board members noted that it can share library objectives with the public and can prevent duplicity or extra work amongst staff and that telling the story can be powerful. Board members can help determine info to include in the reports as well as help distribute once they are finished.
 - Some discussion was had about determining further projects after budget amounts are determined in April, when it is known how the library will be impacted.
 - Reviewing the strategic plan was suggested while waiting for the city budget to be decided and communicated.
 - State of the City Address
 - After the meeting started, Emily got a text from the mayor, asking if the board wanted him to call in and answer any concerns that came from the State of the City address on 1/29/26. A general consensus was that it was unnecessary as it seems better to look forward to future projects and the changes that can be made to benefit the library.
 - During the State of the City address, the attendees' from the board noticed that library pictures and stories were used in a positive and diverse light, but the library or its staff were barely mentioned, if at all.
 - Heather noted that maybe the question the board should be asking the mayor, as the council liaison, is about the lost opportunity to acknowledge the library staff, and their efforts during this last year, in front of the city.
 - Robyn motioned to have Heather write a letter to the mayor, on behalf of the board, to ask the question. Angela seconded. The Ayes are Heather, Violet, Bekah, Curtis, Angela, Roy, Jim, Ophelia, Emily, and Robyn. With no nays, the vote is unanimous.
- **Announcements**
 - Save the Date Books & Brew, Feb 21, 2026

- Reminder that you can sign up for a free United for Libraries Account here: <http://www.ala.org/united/login-request/oregon> and access training webinars and resources from American Library Association.
- **Action items**
 - Connect with Emily if you would like to volunteer to help with the Books & Brew fundraiser.
 - Bekah will send the positive feedback from the Bookshare facilities with Angela and Emily over email.
 - Roy will connect Jim with the Foundation members.
 - Robyn can pick up calendars from the front desk of the library for Willamalane. Emily will get a contact at both Willamalane centers for both Angela and Robyn to be able to post library event calendars in their facilities.

The meeting adjourned at 6:37 pm.

Next meeting, March 3, 2025