

**LORAIN PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM
LORAIN, OHIO**

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, April 16, 2026

Vice President White called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. Vice President White asked if any Board members had a conflict with the agenda. No Trustees indicated a conflict with the business for this evening.

Roll Call – Mr. Ackerman yes, Mr. Byrne excused, Mr. Schaefer yes, Ms. Thompson yes, Ms. Torres excused, Mr. White yes, Ms. Ramirez excused

#2026-041 Approval of March 19, 2026, Regular Meeting Minutes

Mr. Schaefer moved, Ms. Thompson seconded to approve the March 19, 2026, Regular Meeting Minutes.

Roll Call for Resolution #2026-041: yeas, unanimous

#2026-042 Approval of February 2026, Fiscal Officer Report

No February report was presented.

Report of the Director

CEO Diamond-Ortiz shared the 2025 annual report with all trustees. She also shared about the seed libraries that are available at all locations. She highlighted the article about the library's 125th anniversary in Mimi Magazine, Northeast Ohio's largest publication. In reference to the monthly statistical report, CEO Diamond-Ortiz mentioned that attendance at branches is trending upward in addition to the continued growth of digital media use.

Committee Reports

- a. Finance, Audit and Properties Committee – Committee met on April 10 and will be meeting on May 1.
- b. Library Services and Personnel Committee – None
- c. Trustee Development and Nominating Committee – None
- d. Friends of the Library – None

e. Foundation of the Lorain Public Library System - None

Audience Participation

Branch Update – Ms. Anne Godec provided the following update:

- Jessica Frank (NR) & Julie Wymer (Avon) represented LPLS and attended the Lorain County Special Needs Resource Fair at LCCC in March. They were able to talk with many families of children who benefit from the adapted programs and materials the library has to offer. Some wonderful connections were made; don't be surprised if a therapy pony makes a guest appearance at an adapted western-themed story time in the future (we promise the pony will stay outside!)
- North Ridgeville staff are busy preparing to visit the local schools in May to promote this year's Summer Reading Challenge: Unearth a Story.
- Read into the record the proclamation we received from the Ohio Senate honoring the Lorain Public Library System North Ridgeville Branch on the first Libraries with Heart location in Lorain County.

Public Comment

- Fr. Alex Barton, Episcopal Church of the Redeemer, Solidarity Urban Farms, Ship to Shore Coffee, Books, and Records, library worker support
- John Cirrone, Lorain County Right to Life, shared concerns about telehealth space being used by Planned Parenthood
- John DeLaat, community member shared concerns about telehealth space being used by Planned Parenthood
- Barry Hogue, community member shared concerns about telehealth space being used by Planned Parenthood
- Ed Wacker, Lorain County Right to Life, shared concerns about telehealth space being used by Planned Parenthood
- Brandon J. Wysocki, community member in support of telehealth space being used by Planned Parenthood

I regret that I am unable to attend the board meeting this evening to speak in person in support of the telehealth room and the open use of it for appointments with ALL relevant providers, however, I would appreciate if it if this comment would be read into the record at the meeting. This sudden resistance against a long-standing and useful resource for the community appears to me to be uninformed fearmongering and attempted overreach. I respect the rights of everyone to have their respective beliefs, but no one has the right to try to force their beliefs on others.

Too often, people only want to see rules and enforcement where it benefits them or is otherwise consistent with their expectations or desires. Indulging such things can be a slippery slope. Whether this group is looking to restrict use of the room or have the resource removed altogether, I believe it is a step in the wrong direction - and one they would not want to see if it hindered them or organizations they are supportive of and/or in agreement with. So, in the interest of fairness across the board, I do not want to see any discrimination when it comes to what medical providers our

community may utilize with the telehealth room, nor do I want that resource reduced or eliminated in any way.

Sincerely,
 Brandon J. Wysocki

New Business

Consent Agenda

#2026-043 to #2026-045

#2026-043 Approval of Personnel Appointments in March.

APPOINTMENTS								
NAME	POSITION	DATE	PT/FT/ TEMP HOURS	GRADE/ STEP	SALARY	DEPT/ BRANCH	NEW HIRE/ CURRENT STAFF	REASON FOR CHANGE
Kaycie Yeager	Public Services Professional	03/16/2026	FT	UI	\$21.22	Main	Current Staff	Josh Campbell promoted to STEAM Initiatives Manager
Sasha Solomon	Librarian	03/30/2026	PT	UJ	\$23.61	North Ridgeville	Current Staff	Reclassification
Jared Craigo	Public Services Professional	04/13/2026	PT	UI	\$20.80	Main	New Hire	Replaces Josh Campbell PT PSP position
Trevyr Willey	Librarian Outreach	04/13/2026	FT	UJ	\$23.61	Main	New Hire	Replaces Sarah White
Christine Lee	Public Services Professional	05/04/2026	PT	UI	\$20.80	Main	New Hire	Replaces Will Peterson

#2026-044 Resolution to Approve Then and Now Payment to State Window Shade and Drapery Co., Inc. Approve a Then and Now payment to State Window Shade and Drapery Co., Inc. for Acoustic Fabric Covered Panels for the Avon Branch as follows:

Check #	Amount	Date Paid
7231	\$16,982.50	March 13, 2026

#2026-045 Resolution to Approve Then and Now Payment to Ohio Library Council. Approve a Then and Now payment to Ohio Library Council for 2026 Institutional Membership as follows:

Check #	Amount	Date Paid
7270	\$18,000	March 20, 2026

Mr. Ackerman moved, Mr. Schaefer seconded approval of all Consent Items #2026-043 to #2026-045.

Roll Call for Resolutions #2026-043 to #2026-045; yeas, unanimous

2026-046 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE APPROVAL OF A SHORT LIST OF FIRMS FOR PROFESSIONAL DESIGN SERVICES

Mr. Schaefer moved, Mr. Ackerman seconded the following resolution regarding the selection of the most-qualified firms to provide professional design services to support mechanical system improvements, space planning, renovations, building modifications, and potential additions at the Main Library and branch locations throughout Lorain County.

WHEREAS, The Library placed ads in the Chronicle Telegram and in the Builders Exchange on January 29 announcing its request for statements of qualifications from architectural/engineering firms for renovating and improving multiple buildings; and

WHEREAS, on February 27 the Library received statements of qualifications from nine architectural/engineering firms, and a selection committee was formed to evaluate the statements based on criteria including firm experience, technical expertise, past performance, project approach, and ability to provide services as needed; and

WHEREAS, following this evaluation process, a review committee has identified and recommends a short list of the most qualified firms for further consideration;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of the Lorain Public Library System that:

The following firms, in no particular order, are hereby approved as the most qualified and short-listed respondents for professional design services:

1. GPD Group
2. Bialosky
3. Bostwick Design Partnership
4. Algebra Engineering
5. BSHM Architecture; and

RESOLVED, That the Board authorizes the CEO or her designees to enter into negotiations with the firm determined to be most qualified for specific project(s), with final agreements to be presented to the Board of Trustees for approval.

Roll Call for Resolution #2026-046; yeas, unanimous

#2026-047 RESOLUTION TO APPROVE AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF ARCHITECT AGREEMENT FOR MAIN LIBRARY

Ms. Thompson moved, Mr. Schaefer seconded approval of #2026-047

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees of the Lorain Public Library System (the "Board") is undertaking a redesign of the Main Library's front lobby ("the Project") to incorporate a centralized public service desk; and

WHEREAS the services of a design professional are needed to develop the full design documents for construction and provide construction administration services for the Project; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the statutory process required to procure a design professional under Ohio Revised Code Sections 153.65, et seq., the Board previously issued a Request for Qualifications ("RFQ") in the Chronicle Telegram and Builders Exchange for professional design services to support mechanical system improvements, space planning, renovations, building modifications, and potential additions at the Main Library and branch locations throughout Lorain County; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Executive Office/Director solicited a price proposal from GPD Group for the Project with the proposed total compensation of \$62,000, including \$60,500, for Basic Services plus an amount not-to-exceed \$1,500 for Reimbursable Expenses; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of the Lorain Public Library System as follows:

1. The Board approves the proposed total compensation of \$62,000, including \$60,500 for Basic Services plus an amount not-to-exceed \$1,500 for Reimbursable Expenses as fair and reasonable compensation, and approves the architect agreement with GPD Group negotiated pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 153.69(B).
2. The Board authorizes the Chief Executive Office/Director and the Director of Finance and Fiscal Officer to finalize and execute the agreement with GPD Group in substantially the form provided to the Board, as well as any related documents required to document the agreement between the Board and GPD Group

Roll Call for Resolution #2026-047; yeas, unanimous

#2026-048 Resolution to Approve Entering Executive Session to Discuss Matters Related to Collective Bargaining.

Mr. Schaefer moved, Ms. Thompson seconded to approve Entering Executive Session to Discuss Matters Related to Collective Bargaining

Roll Call for Resolution #2026-048: yeas, unanimous

Entered Executive Session at 5:28 p.m.

Reconvened from Executive Session at 6:15 p.m.

Mr. Ackerman moved, Mr. Schaefer seconded to Exit Executive Session.

Roll Call: yeas, unanimous

With no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 6:15 p.m.

ATTEST:



President



Secretary