

# SILVER LAKE PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD of TRUSTEES

## JANUARY 12, 2026 MEETING MINUTES

The regular January meeting of the Silver Lake Public Library Board of Trustees was called to order at 6 p.m. by President Liz Steckel. Other Board members present were Erin Flach, Connie Kelsey, Georgia Ransone, Deanna Lowe, Ashley Hanson, and Library Director Alexandra Teske. Also in attendance were Kenneth & Lori Wade, Rebecca & Travis Milner, Lisa Hansford, Myranda Lowe, Amber Jackson, Lori Hamilton, Mikayla Sjeklocha, Joely Jellison, Sara Thomas, and Sarah Noble.

Public comment: Lori Wade spoke about her personal beliefs in response to a statement made during last month's public comment session. Kenneth Wade also spoke about his personal beliefs and parliamentary procedure. Travis Milner spoke about his remarks from last month's Board meeting and toleration for other's beliefs. Lori Hamilton spoke about library card policy and placement of materials in the collection.

Liz moved to amend the agenda by 1) delaying discussion of the Building Use and Budget Oversight & Corrective Actions policies and bylaws on Board Code of Conduct and Board - Director Communication and Supervision, 2) moving the election of Board officers to the beginning of New Business, and 3) adding an Executive Session to discuss 2026 staff salaries. Ashley seconded; approved 6 - 0.

Georgia moved to accept the Consent Agenda, Ashley seconded. Approved 6 - 0.

Correspondence: An email from Clara Menhusen was read aloud.

The Library sent out approximately 40 Christmas cards to donors and supporters. The Milners sent the Library a card and served cinnamon rolls, Rita Garcia gave goodies, popcorn, and chocolates for the staff, Gary Musselman brought by a card, and Silver Lake Bank sent Cashmere popcorn.

Deanna, Ashley, Georgia, and Erin were all nominated for the position of Board President and all declined to serve in that position. Georgia nominated Liz to continue as Board President; Connie seconded. Liz received 5 votes from Connie, Erin, Georgia, Deanna & Liz; Ashley abstained. Deanna moved that Erin serve as Vice President; Connie seconded. Approved 6 - 0. Liz moved that Connie continue as Treasurer; Erin seconded. Approved 6 - 0. Liz moved that Georgia continue as Secretary; Ashley seconded. Approved 6 - 0.

Ashley moved to rename Columbus Day to Indigenous Peoples' Day on the 2026 holiday schedule; Georgia seconded. Approved 6 - 0. Liz moved to add Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday to the list of holidays for which the library closes in 2026, including New Year's Day, President's Day, Memorial Day, Juneteenth, Independence Day, Labor Day, Veteran's Day, Thanksgiving (Nov. 27 & 28), and Christmas (December 24 & 25). Georgia seconded; approved 6 - 0.

Alexandra gave the 2025 Annual Report with photos of the following Programming Highlights: Story Time, Winter & Summer Reading Challenges, Afterschool Activities, Book Clubs, Professional Development, Teen Culinary Book Club, Lego Club and Jr. Librarian. Other featured events include Kansas Reads to Preschooler, Banned Books Week, and Hispanic Heritage Month. The report also included statistics and listed examples of community support.

Liz gave a detailed Impact Report on the 2025 Library Craft Program, which reported on activities in three categories: 1) After-school Craft Programs, 2) Saturday Family Time (Crafternoons), and 3) Farmer's Market Programming. Total participation in these programs totaled 719.

After discussion, the Board postponed a request for the transfer of Library Foundation Funds. The report of funds transfer to Capital Improvement Fund was also postponed to the next meeting. Erin and Deanna volunteered to conduct the 2025 Financial Review, with reports due no later than the July Board meeting.

Liz reported on the Mystery Readers Book Club activities for 2025. Alexandra, who has assumed leadership of the 2nd Tuesday Book Club from Cathy Newland, also reported. Deanna spoke about her scheduling conflict and will look into choosing another weekday for the Good Reads Book Club.

KOMA/KORA training for the Board is tentatively scheduled for Feb. 9th or 16th - TBA.

The Board held discussion on Social Media Policy and Public Comment Bylaw, deciding to delay the vote to approve till review of the written statements.

Georgia moved that the Board recess into Executive Session for 15 minutes to discuss library personnel pursuant to the non-elected personnel matter exception, K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(1). Connie seconded; approved 6 - 0. The Board entered Executive Session at 8:43 p.m. and came out at 8:58 p.m.

Ashley moved that the Board accept the pay raises for 2026 as discussed in Executive Session. Connie seconded; approved 6 - 0 .

Georgia moved to adjourn; Ashley seconded. The motion carried 6 - 0 at 8:59 p.m.

**The next meeting is Feb. 9, 2026 at 6 p.m.**

SUBMITTED BY GEORGIA RANSONE