



BOARD MEETING MINUTES: **June 16, 2025**

CALL TO ORDER FOR BOARD MEETING - Board of Trustees

A Board of Trustees meeting of the Peru Public Library was held on Monday, June 16, 2025. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM and was presided over by President Alison Paul.

ATTENDEES

MEMBERS PRESENT: Regine Brindle, Bryan Maggart, Regina McDowell, Stacy Mize, Alison Paul, and Gennell Taylor

MEMBER APOLOGIES: Leslie Murphy

STAFF PRESENT: Director- Maryann Farnham and Assistant Director- Michelle Spangler

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

An election for officers was held. The members elected will serve from June 2025 through June 2026. Originally, there were only three members standing as nominees for the following offices: Alison Paul (President), Regine Brindle (Secretary), and Regina McDowell (Treasurer). After three rounds of voting and much discussion, Paul was elected as President.

The Board then voted on the position of Treasurer, with McDowell as the lone nominee. The vote passed, electing McDowell as Treasurer.

Following this, the Board then went back to discuss the Secretary position, where Genell Taylor was nominated to run for secretary. After a vote, Taylor was elected Secretary.

McDowell was nominated to hold the position of Vice President, which would have her occupying both the offices of Vice President and Treasurer. After a vote, McDowell was elected as Vice President.

With voting being completed, these members will hold the following offices: President- Alison Paul, Vice President- Regina McDowell, Secretary- Genell Taylor, and Treasurer-Regina McDowell.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

Review of the May 2025 Minutes.

Motion to accept the minutes was made by McDowell.

Motion seconded by Taylor.

Motion passed with four affirmatives, with Maggart and Mize abstaining.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Review of the financial statements, claims, and bank statements.

Motion to accept the financial statements, claims, and bank statements was made by Taylor.

Motion seconded by Brindle.

Motion passed with four affirmatives, with Maggart and Mize abstaining.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Parks Department will be coming over to clean and do upkeep on the outside benches and the statue of Marie Stuart Edwards.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- Update on the Lavengood Estate
 - Farnham received information that the sale of the farmland and the home are put on hold while the estate is being contested by a family member.
- HB1509
 - Starting on July 1, 2025, all board members, their terms, and their appointing body must be listed on meeting agendas.
- ReDiscover Downtown Peru grant paperwork was sent in for reimbursement for the windows on the Children's Floor. We are waiting on a walk through from that organization's committee.
- Renovation
 - Farnham is working with Hobbs on getting the parking lot resealed and striped.
 - Farnham is working on an outdoor lighting project which includes replacing the light bulbs, replacing the light fixtures, and painting the poles and railings. Also, replacing the lights on the east and west side of the building.
 - Farnham is also working on getting the windows washed on the inside and outside of the building (with the exception of the stained glass windows).

OLD BUSINESS

- [Ancestry.com](https://www.ancestry.com)
 - Maggart got information from the Logansport-Cass County Public Library about their use of the database. They do not have a specific librarian working in the genealogy section. Many of their workers fill dual roles, much like here. They do have [ancestry.com](https://www.ancestry.com). The director reported that the use is low compared to the local obituary requests that they receive. Most patrons work on their genealogy research on their own while in the library. But the library is working on building up their genealogy section so they appreciate having [ancestry.com](https://www.ancestry.com).
 - Brindle and Paul visited the Wabash Carnegie Public Library to look into their genealogy section and discuss [ancestry.com](https://www.ancestry.com). The director there felt that it was worth the purchase. Brindle and Paul used the library edition of [ancestry.com](https://www.ancestry.com) on the computers in Wabash. They felt it was user friendly.
 - The motion to purchase a subscription to the library edition of [ancestry.com](https://www.ancestry.com) on a trial basis was made by McDowell. The motion was seconded by Taylor. The motion passed with four affirmatives, with Maggart and Mize abstaining.

NEW BUSINESS

- Discussion on making sure that all board members are made aware when the monthly meetings are changed from the original dates.

There being no further business on the agenda, the meeting was adjourned by President Paul at 8:44 PM.

MINUTES PREPARED BY: Michelle Spangler, Assistant Director

MINUTES REVIEWED BY: Gennell Taylor, Secretary

SECRETARY APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

(Signature and Date)

Gennell Taylor - Peru Public Library Board of Trustees Secretary