



## **BOARD MEETING MINUTES: February 19, 2026**

### **CALL TO ORDER - Board of Trustees**

A Board of Trustees meeting of the Peru Public Library was held on Thursday, February 19, 2026. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM and was presided over by President Alison Paul.

### **ATTENDEES**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Denise Gornto, Leslie Murphy, Alison Paul and Gennell Taylor

MEMBER APOLOGIES: Regine Brindle

MEMBER ABSENCES: Stacy Mize

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

PUBLIC IN ATTENDANCE: Belinda Bomhoff (incoming trustee, paperwork getting filed)

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

### **APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES**

Review of the January 2026 Board Meeting Minutes and the Special Meeting Minutes.

Motion to accept January minutes was made by Murphy.

Motion seconded by Taylor.

The motion passed unanimously.

Motion to accept the Special Meeting Minutes was made by Taylor.

Motion seconded by Gornto.

The motion passed unanimously.

### **FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

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

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

Motion seconded by Gornto.

The motion passed unanimously.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

President Alison Paul will not be able to attend the March 2026 meeting. Vice President Leslie Murphy will preside over the meeting.

### **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

- A list of the board members, their appointments and terms, as well as their addresses will be updated for next month.

- NICF Update
  - The library received the funds from the Miami County Community Foundation.
  - The Funded Non-Resident Cards will be distributed beginning on March 5, 2026 at 9:00 a.m.
- Lavengood Estate Update
  - The YMCA, the Honeywell, Elizabeth Price (our attorney), and Will Ramsey had a phone conference on February 6, 2026. As of that date, Lavengood's niece had not answered her discovery, which was due that day. (Discovery is written questions answered under oath and a Request for Admissions, which are statements that are made where she either confirms or denies as true.)
  - Ramsey will be getting Tom Keith's deposition, as he was Lavengood's lawyer. He will be answering questions about the location of Lavengood's will and if a signed copy exists. Ramsey will also be getting Lavengood's medical records to verify his competency at the time documents were signed. Both legal records and medical would require the Estate to agree to release, thus waiving attorney/doctor privileges.
  - A case management conference has been set for March 10, 2026. The purpose of this conference should be to set a final hearing date and set some other deadlines for discovery and motions.
- The State Board of Accounts Report is in process.
- The Library Annual Report will be completed once we receive the numbers we are waiting on from the Indiana State Library.
- The link to [ancestry.com](https://www.ancestry.com) has been added to our library website and is up and running. It can be accessed from within the library.
- Renovation
  - Children's Room Shelving- Installation has been pushed back to April due to the materials for the shelves not being ready. As of now, it is scheduled for April 13-17.
  - Program Room and Fire Escape Windows- Installation is scheduled for May 11th.
  - Future Projects- The AC Unit, we are still waiting on information from QPH.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

None

## **NEW BUSINESS**

- Non-Resident Fee
  - A motion to keep the Non-Resident Card fee at \$85 for an annual card and \$25 for a 3-month card was made by Paul.
  - The motion was seconded by Taylor.
  - The motion passed unanimously.
- EFT Payment Approval
  - A motion to approve EFT (Electronic Funds Transfer) on accounts dealing with payroll and payment to vendors was made by Paul.
  - The motion was seconded by Taylor.
  - The motion passed unanimously.

- Creation of a New Bank Account
  - A motion for Paul, Brindle, and Farnham to open a new checking account at First Farmers Bank and Trust for the money received from the Northern Indiana Community Foundation was made by Paul.
  - The motion was seconded by Gornto.
  - The motion passed unanimously.
- Creation of a New Fund Line Item
  - A motion to create a new fund line item for the money received from the Northern Indiana Community Foundation which will be called the Foundation Account was made by Murphy.
  - The motion was seconded by Taylor.
  - The motion passed unanimously.
- Discussion of the items prioritized at the Special Meeting in January. (*These items can be found in the Special Meeting Minutes for January 24, 2026.*)

**There being no further business on the agenda, the meeting was adjourned by President Paul at 7:30 PM.**

**MINUTES PREPARED BY: Michelle Spangler, Assistant Director**

**SECRETARY APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

(Signature and Date)

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**Gennell Taylor - Peru Public Library Board of Trustees Secretary**