

Berkley Public Library Board Meeting Minutes 19 March 2025

Present: Matt Church, Library Director; Amanda Rhoda, Chairperson; Carol Hermann, Rita Van Brandeghen, Margaret McGee, and Christina Grimm, Board Members; Ross Gavin, City Council liaison.

1. Call to Order:

Meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m.

2. Public Comments:

There was one public guest from the community present who had no comments.

3. Approval of Minutes from January 15, 2025 meeting:

Upon motion of Carol, seconded by Rita, the board unanimously approved the minutes as printed.

There were no Minutes for the meeting scheduled for February 12, 2025 as it was cancelled by the city due to inclement weather.

4. Librarian's Report:

- Karen Tower is retiring from the library effective March 28, 2025. A congratulatory card will be signed by the Board.
- Miles and Wendy put together an Oscar ballot contest for patrons.
- Matt attended regular department head meetings.
- Matt reported that programs were well attended in January and February.
- Another sewing machine program will be scheduled due to high demand.
- The library had Black History Month displays in the adult and youth rooms of the library throughout February.
- The library posted a flyer with QR codes listing helpful crisis intervention services.
- The next meeting of the Friends of the Berkley Library will take place on Monday, March 31, 2025.
- Friends of the Berkley Library will host a book sale Friday, May 16 from 1-6 p.m. and on Saturday, May 17 from 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

5. Old business:

- Circulation statistics in February were up over last year's numbers, but down from January, possibly due to inclement weather.

6. New Business:

- Amanda's board term expires this summer. She expressed a desire to renew her board membership. Rita made a motion that Amanda be recommended by the board for re-appointment. The motion was seconded by Carol, with Margaret asking for a board vote. The board unanimously voted to recommend Amanda's reappointment when her term expires.
- With regard to the next fiscal year, starting July 1, 2025, the budget request will include funding for two quiet study areas in the adult room. In future years requests will include carpet replacement and replacement of older security cameras.

7. Update from City Council liaison:

- Ross reported that Matt and Amanda will attend a city ad hoc meeting on April 14 on how to apply for board and commission positions.
- Ross indicated the Council will be holding upcoming budget meetings.
- The council is looking at a zoning ordinance rewrite as it has not been done for several years and is overdue.
- The city is also working on issues with the website in an effort to resolve them.

8. Adjourn

- The board adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

The next meeting will be held April 16, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol P Hermann