



MINUTES

Library Board

November 19, 2025

7:00 p.m.

Berkey Public Library (3155 Coolidge)

Present:

Matt Church,
Library Director

Amanda Rohda,
Chairperson

Carol Hermann,
Board Member

Christina Grimm,
Board Member

Margaret McGee,
Board Member

Rita Van Brandeghen,
Board Member

Ross Gavin
City Council Liaison

Absent: none

I. Call to order: The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m.

II. Public comments: None

III. Approval of minutes from October meeting: motion by Carol Hermann, seconded by Amanda Rohda, unanimously approved by the board.

IV. Librarian's report:

- Annie Bassett started as a new part-time library desk assistant.
- Lauren attended a meeting of the MI PR Group on October 21.
- Matt attended a webinar with The Library Network and Amazon to learn more about the discounts and offerings that Amazon is making available to libraries specifically.
- The Library hosted the skeleton petting zoo outside the front entrance and a Nightmare Before Christmas display along the BOO!kely festivities. The library also handed out candy on October 25 for the Trick-or-Treat Stroll along Coolidge.
- Berkley Seed Library provided over 3500 seed packets this season. Generous contributors and volunteers made this possible.
- Rebecca, Lisabeth, Michelle, and Katie assisted with the Park Your Pumpkin event with Parks and Recreation on October 2.
- The Friends book sale was very busy and raised over \$3,000.
- All October library programs were well attended.
- Teen after school events were well attended.
- 23 kids attended two Read To a Dog sessions. A third dog is being added.
- 75 people attended the Chamber Music concert at Berkley First.

V. Old business

- A. Circulation was up. October 2025 was more than 2,000 over October 2024.
- B. The study room policy was discussed. Rita Van Brandehen moved to approve seconded by Amanda Rohda, unanimously approved by the board.

VI. New business:

- A. A revised Library card policy was reviewed. Matt will send it to the city attorney for review.
- B. Proposed meeting dates for 2026 were approved. Matt will submit the dates to the city.

VII. Update from City Council liaison: Ross Gavin

- The Council welcomed two returning members and one new member following the recent election.
- New attorney is thoughtful and gives sound opinions.
- The budget process will be starting soon. Starting early gives more time for feedback.
- Audit report went well. The only finding was a needed date.
- Veterans Day events went well.
- The City Manager has been here a year. The review is coming up in a month or so.
- Holiday Lights parade is coming up December 6.
- City approved the updated investment policy.
- The city applied to Oakland County for community development block grants.
- Christine Grimm asked if Oakland County is offering technology update grants that were available for application.

VIII. Adjourn: Carol Hermann, seconded by Christine Grimm unanimously approved by the board.

- Time: Meeting was adjourned at 7:41 p.m.

Minutes submitted by: Rita Van Brandeghen, board member

Next meeting: January 21, 2026 at 7 p.m.