

Newton Public Library Board Meeting Minutes

January 22, 2026 4:00 PM

Library Conference Room

Members Present: Bierman, Braafhart, Baker, Soule, Hutchinson, Director Terry, City Council Liaison Simbro

Call to Order: 4:00 PM

Agenda Approval: Hutchinson moved, Soule second. Motion passed.

Minutes Approval: Soule moved, Braafhart second. Motion passed

Public comments or concerns: There were none.

Introduction for new City Liaison, Stacy Simbro.

Approval of the Bills: Ashton moved, Braafhart second. Motion passed.

Reports:

Financial Report: On track, nothing to report.

Director's Report: Board will wait for foundation request to pay for the 1950s film reel.

City report: Nothing to report.

Business Calendar Plan: No edits until the strategic plan has been approved. Otherwise, on track.

Approval of the Strategic Plan: Baker moved, Soule second. Motion passed.

Old Business:

Book Spine Suggestions: We will take more time for the board to produce additional suggestions in an effort to see more diversity of authors.

Updating the memorial policy

New Business:

Confidentiality Policy Review.

County Budget Meeting: The County has agreed to increase funding to be split across all county libraries. This amount will be used for books. Each library will show the county a list of books

purchased with the extra funds. Director Terry will begin sending the County Supervisors her monthly directors report and library statistics.

County Libraries are in discussion about sending a representative once a month to the County Board of Supervisors meeting, so we can see a more regular presence. Newton would take two months a year.

Pennies, Procedure, and Planning: Recorded costs will be rounded up or down to the nickel.

Director Terry will begin reviewing accreditation documents on Monday, January 26th. Director Terry will keep the Board updated on any additional policies that need to be updated in order to submit for State Accreditation. .

2026 HVAC contract approval: Braafhart motion, Hutchinson second. Motion passed.

New insurance evaluation. Report will be sent to the board and Director Terry will have an additional conversation with Maki to ensure coverage is an accurate replacement cost.

Agenda items for next meeting: February 26, 4 pm Conference Room

Next Scheduled Meeting:

Library card Design

Book Spine options for vinyl wrap

Business Calendar Updates

Continued ICE discussion and update on staff training.

Extending hours on Saturday

Library Board Open Discussion: None

Meeting Adjournment: Hutchinson motion to adjourn, Bierman seconded. Meeting adjourned

Respectfully submitted by Rachel Braafhart, Board Secretary.