

Thorntown Public Library Board of Trustees
August 11, 2025
Minutes

Vice-President Barb Hillger called the meeting to order at 6:01 pm. Also present were Chuck Behrens, Jennifer Bopp, Linda Fahrenbach, Judy Johnson, Director Christine Sterle, Treasurer Barbara Darnell, and board assistant Kathy Bowen.

Judy moved to approve the agenda with a second by Chuck. Vote 4-0

Chuck moved to approve the July Secretary's report with additional claims presented by Barbara Darnell. Jennifer seconded. Vote 5-0

Barbara presented the Monthly Financial Report. Receipts into the operating fund for July, 2025 were \$28,480.98. Operating fund disbursements totaled \$70,792.22. July's ending cash balance was \$1,251,789.47 with investments of \$278,084.95. Total Cash/Investments were \$1,529,924.42.

Judy moved to approve the Register of Claims with a second by Jennifer. Vote 5-0

With no public present the board proceeded to Reports.

The Thorntown Heritage Museum's ice cream social was a success with about 120 guests and \$517 raised. Next museum event is a tea party for ages 4 and up. The museum will have a booth at the American Indian Council Pow Wow August 16 and 17 at the Boone County Fairgrounds. SCHS is a sponsor for this event. SCHS has received an extension on the Community Foundation grant. So far, SCHS has \$12,075 of the \$38,503 needed for the foundation repair. A small gift shop for the museum is being established to help with fundraising. The museum report also included plans for Festival of the Turning Leaves weekend.

Unfinished Business:

An updated draft of the proposed salary schedule was presented and discussed. Judy moved to approve the draft with a second by Chuck. Vote 5-0

Christine presented and explained the draft of the 2026 Budget. After discussion, Jennifer moved to approve the budget with a second by Linda. Vote 5-0

New Business:

Christine requested a purchase of a Google Pixel 9 phone for library use at a cost of \$719, which includes the phone and 2 years of service. The phone will be used for photos and library communications so that staff will not need to use their personal devices. After discussion, Linda moved to approve the purchase with a second by Chuck. Vote 5-0

Staff have requested changing the library's Family Christmas night to the second Monday in December to give some space between Thanksgiving and the holiday program. Jennifer moved to approve the change with a second by Chuck. Vote 5-0

Moving the Christmas program necessitates moving the December board meeting to an alternate date. 12/1, 12/9, and 12/15 were discussed. This item is tabled so board members can consult their calendars.

Since the community Christmas event has moved to December 8, Christine requested an additional holiday closing the Friday after Thanksgiving, 11/28. Chuck moved to approve the closure with a second by Jennifer. Vote 5-0

Meeting Room Improvements – We are waiting for the paint quote and would also like to purchase and install picture rails rather than put holes back in the walls. After discussion, Jennifer moved to approve the purchase with a second by Linda. Vote 5-0

Director's Report

The new catalog tablet has been installed and is working well so far. 88 participated in Adult Summer reading and 391 in the Youth & Teen program. Barb and Lillian distributed books and info at Thorntown's Back to School Bash on July 19. The library is in the process of changing book vendors

Christine shared the results of a meeting with the Community Foundation and other library representatives regarding Dolly Parton's Imagination Library.

The board also heard updates on staffing, the upcoming Friends of Thorntown Public Library bingo fundraiser, fall book sale, new computer purchases, and the Evergreen Indiana conference.

Christine will be on vacation August 20-26.

The Public Hearing for the 2026 budgets will be held at the next meeting on September 8.

Judy motioned to adjourn the August board meeting with a second by Jennifer at 7:10 p.m. Vote 5-0.


Linda Fahrenbach, Secretary