

**SOUTHERN LEHIGH PUBLIC LIBRARY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
GENERAL BUSINESS MEETING
January 20, 2026
MINUTES**

Members present: S. Arnold, D. Miller, K. Parsons, E. Deebel, G. Loveless, S. Maund, V. Barber, C. Kruse

Members missing: None

Others present: M. Sullivan; Library Director

A. OPENING PROCEDURES

a. Call to Order

i. S. Arnold called the meeting to order at approximately 6:30 PM.

B. REORGANIZATION

Nominations for board members (president, vice president, secretary, treasurer)

- President: S. Arnold Nom: K. Parsons, 2nd C. Kruse. Accepted
 - Yea: S. Arnold, D. Miller, K. Parsons, E. Deebel, G. Loveless, S. Maund, V. Barber, C. Kruse
- Vice President: D. Miller: Nom. C. Kruse, 2nd K. Parsons. Accepted
 - Yea: S. Arnold, D. Miller, K. Parsons, E. Deebel, G. Loveless, S. Maund, V. Barber, C. Kruse
- Treasurer: C. Kruse, Nom. K. Parsons, 2nd D. Miller. Accepted
 - Yea: S. Arnold, D. Miller, K. Parsons, E. Deebel, G. Loveless, S. Maund, V. Barber, C. Kruse
- Secretary: G. Loveless, Nom. K. Parsons, 2nd C. Kruse. Accepted
 - Yea: S. Arnold, D. Miller, K. Parsons, E. Deebel, G. Loveless, S. Maund, V. Barber, C. Kruse

C. NOTIFICATIONS

- None

D. MINUTES

a. Approval of minutes of the general business meeting of December 16, 2025

- Motion: C. Kruse, K. Parsons
 - Yea: Yea: S. Arnold, D. Miller, K. Parsons, E. Deebel, G. Loveless, V. Barber, C. Kruse
 - Abstain: S. Maund. S. Maund is abstaining because he wasn't part of the board for the December meeting
 - Motion carried.

D. PUBLIC COMMENT

a. None.

E. TREASURER'S REPORT

a. C. Kruse submitted the December Treasurer's report. Approval of the report:

- Motion: K. Parsons, D. Miller
 - Yea: Yea: S. Arnold, D. Miller, K. Parsons, E. Deebel, G. Loveless, V. Barber, C. Kruse
 - Abstain: S. Maund. S. Maund is abstaining because he wasn't part of the board for the December

- meeting
 - Motion carried.
- M. Sullivan made some clarifications. Some unforeseen expenses and savings were discussed. In the end, spending was about \$300 over. A staff member took on Adult Programming in 2025. M. Sullivan allowed her to spend more in 2025 to get programming started.

F. LIBRARIAN'S REPORT

- M. Sullivan has a new hire (Kristie Kennedy) for evening and weekend schedule and some marketing responsibilities
- Helping Hands started strong with \$42,408
- WSJ and NY Times subscriptions will be paid for by Allentown Library district.. M. Sullivan trying to consolidate subscriptions so SLPL library gets a refund for money the library district already spent
- K. Parsons updated on Helping Hands fundraisers: Soup for sale through Diana's Cafe. Membership drive beginning. 50 former and new members have signed up for 2026.
- E. Deebel is trying to get donation from Hopewell for Casual for a Cause event last fall.
- C. Kruse offered to organize a Dine to Donate event for the library

G. OLD BUSINESS

- a. None.

H. NEW BUSINESS / DIRECTION / DISCUSSION ITEMS

a. **Strategic Plan:** S. Arnold presented a draft outline of the plan. Including a brief history, mission statement, and goals

- S Arnold asked the board to review the Strategic Plan and send her comments. The board discussed whether to add a possible addition to the library to the plan. The board felt added space should be added to the strategic plan. S. Maund said the township is looking at some things that may help with library space.
- Another big focus is redesigning the website.
- The board also discussed researching a possible tax referendum in Spring 2027 and seeing how that would affect funding and services from the various townships. S. Arnold will start with a meeting with Upper Saucon Township to see their thoughts.
- The board discussed a format the strategic plan should have. M. Sullivan to get some sample strategic plans from other libraries (Whitehall, Emmaus).
- S. Arnold would like to add tech help to the plan. Interns from DeSales, volunteers from the High School National Honor Society or the community.

b. **Committee Assignments:** S. Arnold appointed board members into committees:

- Finance: C. Kruse, V. Barber
- Human Resources: K. Parsons, G. Loveless
- Facilities: S. Maund
- Planning: D. Miller
- Fund Raising: E. Deebel

I. CORRESPONDENCE & INFORMATION ITEMS

- a. None.

J. ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

- a. K. Parsons asked about charging patrons for attending adult programming. M. Sullivan would like to keep all library sponsored programs free. The board asked about allowing donations.

K. COURTESY OF THE FLOOR

- a. None.

L. ADJOURNMENT

- a. Motion: D. Miller

The meeting adjourned at 7:30PM

D. Miller, Secretary

UPCOMING MEETINGS

- Next BOARD meeting: February 17, 2026 at 6:30 PM
- Next Friends of SLPL meeting: February 9, 2026