

Southern Lehigh Public Library – Board of Directors
Regular Business Meeting
Tuesday, February 17, 2026 – 6:30 P.M.
3200 Preston Lane, Center Valley, PA 18034
MINUTES

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

Members missing: G. Loveless

Others present: M. Sullivan (Library Director), M. Sutyak (Programs Director), Thomas Gettings (Guest)

1. OPENING PROCEDURES

Call to Order – S. Arnold, President called the meeting to order at approximately 6:30pm.

2. NOTIFICATIONS

None

3. MINUTES

Consideration of a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of January 20, 2026.

Motion:

Yea: S. Arnold, D. Miller, K. Parsons, E. Deebel, S. Maund, V. Barber, C. Kruse

Abstain: K. Grum is abstaining because she wasn't part of the board for the January meeting.

Motion Carried.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

Thomas Gettings from the Upper Saucon Township Environmental Advisory Council's Earth Steward Program addressed the board. The purpose of the council is to advise the township on matters dealing with the protection and conservation of natural resources in Upper Saucon. They are looking to partner with the library for education and outreach in the community. The idea is to create awareness by offering "earth steward" status to members of the community who contribute good works. They want to engage children to be leaders of awareness. The board suggested extending the road clean-up program to SLSD service hours by contacting the school. The board agreed upon a display in the library and maybe providing an activity to engage children. M. Sutyak offered to work with the council to try a program or activity.

5. TREASURER'S REPORT

S. Maund expressed concern about deficit spending. M. Sullivan acknowledged the spending, stating that it is part of an initiative to spend some of the surplus. The library surplus is in excess of what is expected and should be spent, with the understanding that more funding will be needed in the future.

Consideration of a motion to approve the current Treasurer's report submitted by C. Kruse.

Motion:

Yea: S. Arnold, D. Miller, K. Parsons, E. Deebel, S. Maund, V. Barber, C. Kruse

Abstain: K. Grum is abstaining because she wasn't part of the board for the January meeting.

Motion Carried.

6. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Computers & Technology – M. Sullivan addressed the copier lease renewal and increased printing costs.

Building & Maintenance – M. Sullivan addressed the issue with the HVAC system and the lack of response from Dieter Brothers. The board requested that M. Sullivan revisit the contract with Dieter Brothers to make sure the maintenance contract is finalized and then contact some other vendors.

Programs & Services – M. Sullivan addressed the Morning Call subscription. The digital content is free, but the newspaper rate is \$7.79 per day. Other libraries are getting a better rate. The board suggested pressuring the Morning Call for a better rate, otherwise using only digital content or cancelling the subscription.

7. OLD BUSINESS

Fundraising

The Friends are looking to provide a “dine to donate” program soon.

8. NEW BUSINESS/ DIRECTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

Strategic Plan – S. Arnold asked the board to review the strategic plan in the last meeting and give comments. The purpose is to provide the public with an idea of what the library intends to do in the future. The board members were asked to read the plan again and give feedback for the wording and make suggestions for tangible goals. Focus was placed on the Mission Statement, communications, redesigning the website, and facility changes.

Nomination(s) for Secretary – G. Loveless was nominated at the last meeting, but is not able to fill this role because the bylaws state that non-qualified municipalities cannot hold an executive position on the board due to funding. G. Loveless represents the Borough of Coopersburg, so another nomination is needed.

V. Barber, nominated by S. Arnold, 2nd D. Miller

Yea: S. Arnold, D. Miller, K. Parsons, E. Deebel, S. Maund, V. Barber, C. Kruse, K. Grum

Committee Assignments – committees were assigned last meeting, but 3 committees were short of members (facilities, planning and fundraising). It was suggested to combine finance and fundraising to alleviate assignments. S. Arnold, President appointed board members into committees:

Finance & Fundraising: C. Kruse, V. Barber

Human Resources: K. Parsons, G. Loveless

Facilities: S. Maund, K. Grum

Planning: D. Miller, E. Deebel

9. ADJOURNMENT

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Next Board Meeting - March 17, 2026 at 6:30pm

Next Friend’s of SLPL Meeting – March 10, 2026 at 1:00pm