

**WINNETKA-NORTHFIELD PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT  
MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

October 20, 2025

**I. Call to Order**

The meeting was held at the Winnetka Library, 768 Oak St., Winnetka, Illinois. President Freechack called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. A quorum was present.

**II. Roll Call**

Present were Trustees Matt Kinnich, Ranjini Shankar, Jenny Fisher, Lindsay Jenkins, and Sarah Tegel; Board President Laura Freechack; and Library Executive Director Monica Dombrowski.

Present was library employee Mark Swenson.

Present was Northfield Village Board President, Tracy Mendrek; Winnetka residents Jeffrey Liss and Jude Offerle; and Northfield resident Mary Rashford.

**III. Public Comments**

No public comments.

**IV. Consent Agenda**

- *Approval of September 15, 2025 Special Meeting Minutes*
- *Approval of September 15, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes*
- *Approval of September 2025 Revenue & Expense Summary*
- *Approval of September 2025 Bill List*

The Consent Agenda was approved upon motion by Trustee Shankar, and confirmed by voice vote.

Trustee Sarah Munoz joined the meeting following approval of the Consent Agenda.

**V. Library Reports**

- *Director's Report*

Exec. Director Dombrowski presented the October 2025 Director's Report, which was included in the board packet for the October 20, 2025 Regular Meeting.

- *President's Comments*

President Freechack shared that she met with the Presidents of the Winnetka Village Board, Winnetka Parks Board, and New Trier School Board to discuss infrastructure improvements as a group. The Library Board will undertake training for director performance reviews at the December meeting. On behalf of the board, President

Freechack congratulated Exec. Dir. Dombrowski on celebrating her fifth anniversary in the position.

## **VI. Village Reports**

- *Winnetka Report*

Trustee Fisher shared that Winnetka has adopted both e-scooter and e-bike policies, and planning is underway for redevelopment of the Post Office site on Chestnut Avenue.

- *Northfield Report*

Trustee Jenkins shared that a five-story condo building has been approved for 405 Central Ave; the village will be celebrating its centennial on August 26, 2026; and a Middlefork Elementary referendum is planned for 2026.

## **VII. Unfinished Business**

- *Update on Building Projects*

Exec. Director Dombrowski reported that regarding the Winnetka project, the new exterior door installations are complete and the remainder of finishing work will be completed shortly.

Regarding Northfield, the proposed IGA between the Village and the Library Board is part of the New Business agenda later in the meeting; Wight & Co. will be the architecture firm for the project; and Northfield Village will vote on the agreement at its October 28, 2025 meeting.

## **VIII. New Business**

- *Presentation of FY25-26 Q1 Strategic Planning Updates*

- *Discussion on Draft FY25-26 Levy*

The Levy is still in draft as the county has not issued its final advisement; the draft indicates a 2.9% levy recommendation.

- *Discussion & Vote on Operating Reserve Balance*

The board discussed possible scenarios based on potential Northfield project budgets.

Roll call vote to move from 12 months' reserves to 6 months' reserves:

YES: 5 (Kinnich, Jenkins, Fisher, Shankar, Tegel)

NO: 1 (Munoz)

- *Discussion & Vote on Northfield Village Expansion Project IGA*

Roll call vote to approve the IGA:

YES: 6

NO: 0

**IX. Communications**

Next regular meeting: Monday, November 17, 2025, at Winnetka Library.

**X. Public Comment**

Winnetka resident Jeffrey Liss thanked the Library for its thorough Annual Report and noted that at a Winnetka Village study session regarding the Post Office site, there was no discussion of moving the library to the site.

Northfield Village President Tracy Mendrek commented that she is looking forward to the partnership between the Village and the Library Board as the Northfield branch expansion project begins.

**XI. Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before the Board, a motion to adjourn was made by Trustee Kinnich.

The motion passed on voice vote and President Freechack adjourned the meeting at 7:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah Tegel  
Board Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_ Laura Freechack, President

\_\_\_\_\_ Sarah Tegel, Secretary