

HENNEPIN COUNTY LIBRARY BOARD

The public is welcome at all library board meetings.

January 28, 2026, 5:30-7:30 p.m.

Walker Library, Bde Mka Ska Room

Library Board Agenda

1. Call to Order
2. Attendance of Library Board Members
-  3. Approval of Agenda*
-  4. Consent*
 - A. Approval of Meeting Minutes for November 12, 2025
 - B. Donations
5. Public Comment

Those wishing to speak will sign the clipboard at the meeting door before the start of the meeting. Each speaker is allowed up to three minutes, with a maximum total of 15 minutes. Speakers will: state their full name; direct comments solely to the library board members; and speak respectfully. Remarks are limited to topics relevant to Hennepin County Library. The Board does not engage in discussion or debate. Comments will be taken under advisement and may be directed to the Library Director for a response after the meeting.

6. Welcome from Walker Library Staff

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Library Board

Jessica Kraft, President | Lynn Stetler, Vice President | Amal Karim, Secretary | Gordy Aune, Jr. | Jane Brissett | Erin Brudvik | Erin Carney | Kimberly Connolly | Michael Hogan | Randy Klauk | Ashley Krohn

Library Director
Scott Duimstra



7. Dialogue with Commissioner Goettel
8. President's Report
 - A. Announcements
9. Director's Report, Scott Duimstra
 - A. Library, Community, and County Updates
10. Library Staff Dialogue
11. Committee Reports
 - A. Executive Committee
 - B. Budget Committee
 - C. Policy Committee
 - D. Nominating Committee
 - E. Friends of Hennepin County Library
12. Community Connections
13. Unfinished Business
14. New Business
 - A. Letter Supporting Parking and Staging Distinctions and Classifying Libraries as Protected Spaces
15. Adjourn*



*Denotes board action item.

HENNEPIN COUNTY

LIBRARY BOARD

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Hennepin County Library Board Meeting

Meeting Minutes

The Hennepin County Library Board met Wednesday, November 12, 2025, at the Golden Valley Library, Meeting Room, 830 Winnetka Ave N., Golden Valley, 55427.

Attendees

Library Board members: Gordy Aune, Jr., Jane Brissett, Erin Brudvik, Erin Carney, Mike Hogan, Amal Karim, Randy Klauk, Jessica Kraft, Ashley Krohn, Lynn Stetler.

Hennepin County Staff: Director Scott Duimstra, Lillian Albrecht, Michael Boe, Tonya Depriest, J.R. Genett, DeMaris Johnson, Chantra Hok, Char Kimber, Kelli Koob, Amy McNally, Ayanna Muata, Christy Mulligan, Kate Nelson, Jesse Sawyer, Gwen Wasmund, Ann Woodson-Hicks, Josh Yetman.

Call to Order

President Jessica Kraft called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. and welcomed attendees.

Attendance of Library Board Members

Library Board Clerk Lillian Albrecht took roll call. The Board met quorum with ten members present.

Approval of Agenda

Motion: Randy Klauk

Second: Gordy Aune, Jr.

Motion passed.

Approval of Consent Items

September 17, 2025, meeting minutes and donations.

Motion: Lynn Stetler

Second: Gordy Aune, Jr.

Motion passed.

Public Comment

None.

Library Board

Jessica Kraft, President | Lynn Stetler, Vice President | Amal Karim, Secretary | Gordy Aune, Jr. | Jane Brissett | Erin Carney | Kimberly Connolly | Michael Hogan | Randy Klauk | Ashley Krohn

Library Director

Scott Duimstra



Welcome from Golden Valley Library Staff

Golden Valley Library supervisor Chantra Hok provided a staff welcome and shared information about Golden Valley's service demographics, programming, book clubs, and partnerships.

President's Report

Kraft highlighted upcoming Hennepin County Library and Friends of the Hennepin County Library events featured in Board packets. She informed members of PocketTalkers, which are devices they may use to improve hearing each other during meetings. Members can contact the Clerk if they're interested in using this device. Finally, she noted that 2026 Library Board applications are open and any members with expired terms should reapply if they wish to continue serving on the Board.

Director's Report

Library Director Scott Duimstra discussed Library, Community, and County updates. Topics included service statistics, Westonka, Southdale, and Northeast events, Prince library cards, 2026 budget information, and insights from the Library Youth Advisory Committee's recent meeting.

Staff Dialogue

Community Engagement coordinator Jesse Sawyer provided a staff dialogue on library programming. He shared about the library's outcomes based approach to developing programs and how programs and partnerships are developed and tracked using service plans. He overviewed programming types and highlighted impactful 2025 programs and events.

Committee Reports

The Executive Committee's next meeting is Thursday, January 8, 2026, 5:30-6:30pm at Ridgedale Library, Robert H. Rohlf Room.

The Budget and Long-Term Planning Committee noted the 2025 budget update from their recent meeting and their 2026 meeting schedule. Their next meeting is Wednesday, March 11, 2026, 5:30-6:30 pm at Ridgedale Library, room 174.

The Policy Committee discussed their October meeting's agreements regarding how information is presented to the committee and shared their 2026 meeting schedule. Their next meeting is Wednesday, November 19, 2025, 5:30-7:30 pm at Ridgedale Library, Room 174 to discuss the Patron Use of Library Spaces Policy.

The Friends of Hennepin County Library had no updates to share.

Community Connections

Board members shared ways they connected with Hennepin County Library outside of their existing Board duties. Stories shared included groundbreaking events, the Minneapolis Central chess club, author events, and appreciation for weekend family programming and the unique characteristics of each library.

Unfinished Business

None.

New Business

Gordy Aune, Jr. shared he will step down from the Board at the conclusion of his term and expressed appreciation for the Board, Hennepin County Commissioners, and library staff.

The Board discussed a recent set of emails they received regarding a display at Ridgedale Library regarding international solidarity with Palestinian people day. They discussed existing display guidelines and ideas for the displays administrative policy that is currently in development to ensure the library remains neutral and welcoming.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Library Board is Wednesday, January 28, 2025, from 5:30-7:30 pm, Brooklyn Park Library, Mississippi meeting room.

Adjourn

There being no further business, a motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 6:53 pm.

Motion: Lynn Stetler

Second: Mike Hogan

Motion passed.

Amal Karim, Secretary

Funding Report to the Hennepin County Library Board from Friends of the Hennepin County Library

Hennepin County Library Board Meeting: January 28, 2026

Current support: \$500,000

2026 Year-to-date Support from Friends of the Hennepin County Library

Current support: \$500,000

Prior support: \$0

Year-to-date support: \$500,000



Talk of the Stacks

Upcoming Events Calendar – UPDATED 1/12/2026

Friends of HCL proudly presents our nation's most thought-provoking voices in our two events series.

Pen Pals continues its 29th season of ticketed events at Hopkins Center for the Arts, and **Talk of the Stacks** launches its 2026 season of FREE events at the Minneapolis Central Library.



Pen Pals with Imani Perry

Ticketed Event – In-person + Virtual Option

Thursday, Mar. 5, 2026 @ 7:30 p.m.

Friday, Mar. 6, 2026 @ 11:00 a.m.



Talk of the Stacks with Sean Sherman

FREE Event – In-person + Virtual Option

Wednesday, March 11, 2026 @ 6:30 p.m.



Pen Pals with Ariel Lawhon

Ticketed Event – In-person + Virtual Option

Thursday, Apr. 30, 2026 @ 7:30 p.m.

Friday, May 1, 2026 @ 11:00 a.m.

Tickets to Pen Pals events are on sale at www.suporthclib.org/pen-pals

Free registration for Talk of the Stacks events is available at www.suporthclib.org/talk-stacks

HENNEPIN COUNTY LIBRARY

events



Watch the Movie, Make the Craft! Spiderman: Across the Spiderverse

Tuesday, February 3, 6pm
St. Anthony Library

Join us for family fun time! There will be a quick introduction for the supplies and crafts available, and then watch a fun film! Spiderman: Across the Spiderverse is rated PG.

Level One: Color your own Spiderverse pictures with markers

Level Two: Spray-paint chalk art

Level Three: Make your own graphic novels

Sponsor: Friends of the Hennepin County Library. This program is funded with money from Minnesota's Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund.



Sankofa D.E.A.R. Time With Nekima Levy Armstrong

Sunday, February 8, 3pm
Sumner Library

Join Dr. Talaya Tolefree in her Sankofa D.E.A.R. Time challenge to Drop Everything And Read!

Meet a different local Black author each month who will read from their book and share their creative writing experience to affirm, nurture and empower young readers.

This month, special guest author Nekima Levy Armstrong will read her book, "J is for Justice." Inspired by an activist's countless experiences at protests with her child, this social justice children's book is an empowering introduction to activism for kids – teaching young readers the power of protest, community, and many voices coming together as one. Followed by an interactive activity or craft.



Author Talk: Nina McConigley in Conversation With V.V. Ganeshananthan

Saturday, March 7, 2pm
Plymouth Library

Award-winning author Nina McConigley will discuss her highly anticipated new book "How to Commit a Postcolonial Murder," "a bold, inventive, and fiercely original debut novel that begins with an uncle dead and his tween niece's private confession to the reader."

McConigley will be joined in conversation by local author V.V. Ganeshananthan, whose award-winning "Brotherless Night" (2023) was a New York Times Editors' Choice and an NPR Book of the Year. Followed by Q&A. Books will be available for purchase and signing.

Register at hclib.org/events.