

HERRICK DISTRICT LIBRARY BOARD MINUTES

March 27, 2025 | Holland, Michigan

Members Present

Becker, Dewey, Hillen, Kleinheksel, Kool, Van Allsburg

Members Absent

Marroquin, Petzak

Staff

Director Kooiker, Assistant Director Williams, Circulation Manager Betcher, IT Manager Sneathen

2025-17

Approval of Agenda

Upon motion by Dewey, 2nd by Kool, the agenda was approved at 4:31 p.m.

2025-18

Consent Agenda

Upon motion by Kool, 2nd by Becker, the consent agenda items were approved.

2025-19

Citizen's Comments

There were no citizen's comments.

2025-20

Friends of Herrick District Library

The Friends have seen slower business than previous years in the Book Nook but are otherwise doing well.

2025-21

Director's Report: March 2025

- Personnel: Eileen Button has joined our Public Services team as a Librarian. Sympathies to Bob Sherwood, former Director of HDL, whose wife Julia passed away this week.
- New Copiers and Printers have been put in place over the last month. Sara and her team have created an RFP for Log and Branding redesign, and RFPs are being created for HVAC, Janitorial and Elevator Services going forward. The RFPs that meet the purchasing threshold will be brought to the board for approval.

- IMLS Funding: On March 14 President Trump signed an EO to eliminate the non-statutory programs and reduce the functions and personnel of the Federal Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) with the intent of eliminating the IMLS. Michigan receives funding from the IMLS, and the most significant impact is the potential loss of MEL (Michigan Electronic Library) e-content and MeLCat statewide interloan system. In 2024 Michigan residents accessed 19.2 million trusted articles and journals through MEL. In 2024, with the use of Melcat, more than 1 million physical items were loaned throughout Michigan.
- Project HOME: A large group of organizations interested in helping our unhoused population has been meeting to understand the challenges of the unhoused in the community and how we can all work together in collaborative ways to make progress on the challenges of the unhoused. The group is looking at education, advocacy, communication, resources for assistance, ordinances and enforcement and a resource hub as potential ways to move forward.
- Pocketalk: Ottawa County Health Equity Council is proposing a grant to all the libraries in Ottawa County to provide Pocketalk devices for our library of things. The hope of the Council is to make these devices available to anyone across the county who is need of language support. The Pocketalk devices offer both interpretation and translation support in over 84 languages. We are hopeful that this grant will give us 3 or 4 of the devices for circulation.
- Advocacy Day: The MLA Advocacy day is Wednesday, April 30 with the sign up at <https://www.milibraries.org/advocacy-day>. Space is limited, but this is an opportunity for library supporters to meet with legislators and advocate for libraries across the state.
- Lakeland: Lakeland is cleaning up databases, both on the patron side and the book side and is asking each library to do a complete inventory over the next year as well as clean up more than 30,000 patron records. This is in anticipation of us exploring a new ILS system. We, as a cooperative, are not sure that a new ILS system will give us a better service, but we want to have our data clean in case we do decide to change.

2025-22

Committee Reports

Finance Committee next meeting is May 1, 2025; Policy/Personnel next meeting on April 10, 2025.

2025-23

Strategic Plan FY26

Upon a motion by Becker, 2nd by Kleinheksel, a motion passed to approve the strategic plan goals for fiscal year 26 as edited and presented.

2025-24 Gifts to the Library

Upon a motion by Kleinheksel, 2nd by, a motion passed to accept recent gifts to the library with thanks.

2025-25 Adjournment

Upon a motion by Kool, the meeting was adjourned at 5:47 p.m.

Submitted by Sara DeVries, Board Clerk