

Algoma Public Library Board Meeting Minutes
February 16, 2026 – 4PM
406 Fremont St, Algoma WI 54201
(920) 487-2295

Members Present: Director Cathy Kolbeck, Midge Swedberg, Nicole Meverden, Lila Schlorf, Sue Hass, Braelyn Dempsey, Diana Vlies, Linda Sherman

February 16, 2026 meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Algoma Public Library was called to order by Nicole Meverden at 4:00pm. A motion to approve the agenda was made by Midge Swedberg, seconded by Sue Hass, Motion carried.

Public Input: None

Approval of Minutes: A motion to approve the minutes of the January 19, 2026 meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Algoma Public Library was made by Lila Schlorf, seconded by Midge Swedberg. Motion carried.

Friends of the Library Report: Sue Hass provided an update on the Algoma Library Friends and the Algoma Book Corner.

Directors Report: Cathy provided an update on upcoming programs, and board members received the March newsletter.

- Storytime continues on Tuesdays at 10:30am
- Tech Help - Thursday, February 19 on InfoSoup Basics
- Snacks, Tracks, and Crafts – Thursday, February 19 for Teens
- Sit n’ Stitch – Saturday, February 21
- Afternoon Free Build – Wednesday, February 28
- Chinese Brush Painting – February 27
- Diamond of the Season Tea Party – March 6
- Mario Kart Tournament – March 10
- Plants of Gold: Beaded Pot Program – March 10
- Renee Koenig from UW Madison Extension will be at the library each Wednesday in April offering brief lessons and drop-in sessions on Money Smart topics.

The library is partnering with the Bird City Algoma Committee on bird-themed programming in the month of April in correlation with their Bird City event, with funding provided for passive activities. A college student is completing Academic Service-Learning hours by working with Stephanie on children’s programming.

Cathy reported on after-6:00 p.m. library use tracking as previously requested by the Board and will provide another update next month. She also shared that select subscriptions that were used by library staff were discontinued, resulting in approximately \$325 in annual savings.

Cathy thanked the Algoma Library Friends for approving to fund an AED for the library saving the library another \$2300.

Cathy shared that the library was selected for a free marketing makeover through Hoopla and ARSL, which will provide professional support in areas such as social media, graphic design, email marketing, and community partnerships, with potential funding and Google Ad Grant assistance. The program requires minimal staff time and no cost to the library.

Treasurer's Report: Revenues and disbursements were presented to the Library Board.

Library Bills: A motion to approve the February expenditures was made by Braelyn Dempsey, seconded by Diana Vlies. Motion carried.

Old Business: Library Building/Space Needs Assessment: The Board reviewed the consultant plans prepared by ISG. Cathy shared that she and library staff have gone through the plans and made some notes and that she will follow up with Alyssa from ISG later in the week to discuss feedback. Board members also shared comments and participated in discussion. No formal action was taken.

New Business: 2026 Library Services Grant Approval: A motion to approve the 2026 Library Services Grant application was made by Diana Vlies, seconded by Linda Sherman. Motion carried.

2026 Youth Services Grant Approval: A motion to approve the 2026 Youth Services Support Grant application was made by Linda Sherman, seconded by Diana Vlies. Motion carried.

2025 Annual Report: The 2025 annual report for the State of Wisconsin has been completed. Cathy presented the report to the board. A motion to approve the report was made by Midge Swedberg, seconded by Sue Hass. Motion carried.

Strategic Planning Committee: Cathy reviewed the role and purpose of the proposed Strategic Planning Committee and next steps. A motion was made by Midge Swedberg, seconded by Braelyn Dempsey to form the committee as a subcommittee of the Library Board. Motion carried.

Adjourn: A motion to adjourn was made by Braelyn Dempsey, seconded by Lin Sherman. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 5:10pm. The next meeting of the Algoma Public Library Board of Trustees will be Monday, March 16, 2026 at 4:00pm.

Minutes Recorded by Lila Schlorf.
Written by Cathy Kolbeck. February 17, 2026