Marine Library Association Board Meeting Minutes
February 16th, 2026
7:00 p.m.

Members Present:
Lynn Bjorkman
Deb Yanker Black
Mary Burke
Beth Honetschlager (via Zoom)
Liz Kelly
Jim Maher
Rebecca Otto
Christi Schmitt
Debra Mitts Smith
Kathy Trombly-Ferrin

Members Absent: Laurie Schmidt, Eloise Powell, Kathy Scoggin

Agenda

Welcome and Call to Order – Lynn

Reading of Land Acknowledgement Statement – Liz

Reading of Vision Statement - Lynn

Library Board Membership

- Welcome and motion to accept new Board members – Beth Honetschlager,
- Rebecca Otto and Christi Schmitt. Lynn moved to bring new Board Members
- Beth Honetschlager, Rebecca Otto, and Christi Schmitt to the Marine Library Association. Debra seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.
- Discussion and motions to accept proposed amendments to Board leadership
- for the coming year
    - Motion to authorize that the Board of Directors be amended to consist of up to twelve members for the coming year of service, which is one additional member than outlined in Article III, Section 3.02 of the ByLaws of the Marine Library Association. Lynn moved to amend the ByLaws for up to 12 board members. Kathy F. seconded. The amendment was unanimously approved.
    - Motion to authorize two co-chairs, specifically Lynn Bjorkman and Jim Maher, for the coming year of service that would be deemed as chief executive officers of the Association for the purposes of official actions on behalf of the association as outlined in Article IV, Section 4.06 of the ByLaws of the Marine Library

Association. Lynn moved to authorize two co-chairs. Debra seconded. Unanimously approved.
    - Motion to approve Laurie Schmidt as vice chair, Kathy Trombly-Ferrin as treasurer and Christi Schmitt as secretary for the coming year. Lynn moved to approve officers. Jim seconded. Unanimously approved.
    - Authorization that Jim Maher be added as a current signer on the Library's checking and savings accounts maintained at the Security State Bank of Marine and the investment accounts at Edward Jones. Lynn moved to authorize Jim Maher. Rebecca seconded. Unanimously approved.
    - Rebecca asked if amended bylaws for one year needs to be updated with the Secretary of State's office. She will verify.

Secretary's Report and Motion to accept Board Meeting Minutes for December 2025

Secretary's Report – Janice/Christi

- Minutes of the December 15th, 2025 meeting were presented.
- Discussion: none
- Lynn moved to approve, Deb seconded; minutes were unanimously approved.

Treasurer's Report and 2026 Budget – Kathy

- Review of year-end financials without comment
- Review of 2026 budget
    - Accept proposed 2026 Budget for the Marine Community Library.
    - Lynn moved to authorize submission of an annual grant request to Washington County of $5,500 from the spendable balance of the Marine on St. Croix Library Jordan Bequest Fund for 2026. Jim seconded. Unanimously approved.
    - Lynn moved to authorize a grant request of $500 from the spendable balance of the Marine Community Library Endowment Fund. Debra seconded. Unanimously approved.
    - Rebecca moved to approve the Treasurer's Report. Jim seconded. Unanimously approved.
    - Motion to file report to MN Attorney General's Office and IRS moved to the next Board Meeting.

New Business - Lynn

- Update on St. Croix Valley Foundation Grant Opportunity - Rebecca
- Discussion and motion to accept revised Land Acknowledgement Statement for approval - Liz

- Liz moved to approve the revision of the Land acknowledgement statement. Jim seconded. Unanimously approved.

Committee Reports

Adult Programming –

- We have two programs upcoming - all involving Marine residents. Diane Skomars (Monette Magrath's mother) is talking about her book "Loving Mr. Ragtime) on Feb. 19th.
- Authors Rudy Hargesheimer and Judy Stern talk about their new books - his on North Shore hiking trails and her children's book with an environment message, on March 24th.
- We will also be coordinating Arrow Broken programs over the summer months in the Village Hall.
- DOC NIGHT - The final one for this season is March 5, featuring the five Oscar-nominated short documentaries. Will pick up again in October.
- RIVER RADIO - Just did a show talking with an immigrant family in hiding….very carefully arranged. About 4-5 more episodes this spring.
- ART EXHIBITS - A collection from Loralee DiLorenzo is up through March. Tammy will fill us in on what's next soon.

Beyond Land Acknowledgement -

- Committee welcomed Rebecca Mansour
- ADULT PROGRAMS
    - February 11, 2026 – Dakota Culture and Urban Ecology Walk. Owámniyomniguide Barry Hand shared Dakota values, the significance of the River and the Mni Sota Dakota Tribes' vision for cultural and environmental restoration of the area. 14 participants and ticket sales broke even.
    - Anton Treuer will speak on Friday, June 12th, as a guest of Arrow Broken.
    - Rosie received MSBA grant to work with Lower Sioux community in April with her "Walking Into the Woods" poetry cohort building class

Children's Programing – Kathy/Debra

- We are in the midst of planning and organizing for Summer Camp. Registration will open on 2/26 and promotional information is out and about. We decided to register 18 children per week, and will be flexible about going up to 20 if it seems appropriate.
- We will keep the cost the same as past years again and provide scholarships as requested.
- The roster of presenters is about 50% completed at this time. If any of the board members would like to volunteer/be presenters/ or suggest additional community experts please feel welcome to do that.

- Sign-Ups for camp volunteers will come out closer to summer - keep your eyes peeled.
- We have Family Fun Nights on 2/20 and again on 3/20.
- We continue to need volunteers to sign up and help for MVS library days throughout the rest of the year. Storytimes are on Friday of the month at the school and have good volunteer participation
- Increased enrollment projected at MVS next year

Collections – Debra

- Book purchases are being logged and tracked which will create helpful data points, as well as process control
- Discussion on whether to track replacement books or culled books by pulling a query from LibraryWorld
- Next meeting on February 21st, 2026

Communications – Elaine

- No report. Sue Knapp is moving to Minneapolis but will enthusiastically continue to support the Library.

Finance – Kathy

- No report - See attachments from Treasurer's Report

Operations – Mary

- We've had a few minor issues with Libraryworld, we will continue to monitor.
- The internal library operations have been functioning smoothly, no major issues to report.
- We are training a new volunteer for library support.

Outreach – Deb/Janice

- Stugas delivery pilot program- first round of deliveries completed. Residents aren't using it because they are coming to the library.

Strategic Planning – Laurie

- No report, Board survey results will be shared in April.

Notes/Reminders

- Mary shared a Library "Success Story"

- Have all details for the upcoming 60 plus days of events been shared with Communications?

Meeting adjourned- 8:15 p.m.

Next Board Meeting: Monday, April 20th
(Lynn and Mary will be absent - Jim will chair.)