GWINNETT COUNTY
PUBLIC LIBRARY

Gwinnett County Public Library
Board of Trustees
Board Meeting
Meeting Minutes
January 12, 2026 – 6:00 PM
Collins Hill Branch Meeting Room
455 Camp Perrin Road
Lawrenceville, GA 30043-2408

Voting Members

JT Wu, Chairperson - Present
Brian Carlson, Vice Chair - Present
Dr. Jann Joseph, Secretary - Present
Dr. Kathy Lee, Treasurer - Present
Georgeanna Kelly, Board Member - Present

Meeting Minutes

The Gwinnett County Public Library Board of Trustees held a scheduled Board Meeting on January 12, 2026 at 6:00 PM at the Collins Hill Branch. Executive Director Charles Pace and other administrative staff were in attendance.

1. **Call to Order**
   Board Chair JT Wu called the meeting to order at 6:02 PM.

2. **Approval of the Agenda**
   Motion made by Carlson to approve the January 12, 2026 Board Meeting Agenda with inserted item " Citizen's Request to Address the Board." Seconded by Kelly, Unanimous. APPROVED

3. **Citizen's Request to Address the Board**

   Jimmy Phan

   Jimmy Phan of Dacula, GA attended the meeting to share his thoughts with the Board of Trustees.

   - Phan praised the Board and also the library, stating that he attends many library programs and enjoys them. He wishes he could attend more, but time constraints prevent it.
   - Phan recommended that the library consider a subscription-based card option, which would provide access to additional services.
   - Phan inquired about the possibility of donating culinary equipment for the system's culinary programs.
   - Phan inquired about the availability of tote bags, which are sometimes given away at programs.

4. **Director's Report**

   Executive Director Charles Pace reported highlights from 2025. In spite of financial constraints and many challenges, GCPL was able to rise to the challenge and continue to provide a comprehensive and robust program of library services.

   - Many successful programs took place, including Game Jam, CosMania, Ken Scott Magic Shows, and an author visit from Rick Riordan.
   - Many system statistics turned upwards:
     - Circulation up 8%
     - Door count up 10%
     - Holds up 8%
     - Computer usage up 41%
       - In-branch usage up 12%
       - Wireless up 52%
     - Website visits up 7%
     - Database usage up 156%
   - The New Start Entrepreneurship Incubator continues to assist formerly incarcerated individuals start their own businesses, and Career Online High School helped more adults obtain their high school diplomas. Additionally, a new Teen RISE Entrepreneurship program provided mentoring and business development training to teens in Gwinnett.

- GCPL was also awarded a Top Innovator Award from the Urban Libraries Council for the Hooper-Renwick branch. This award recognizes GCPL's efforts to make sure the programming and collections at the branch represent the diverse needs of the community, particularly highlighting the African-American population.

5. **Financial Items**
   a. **FY2025 Financial Narrative and Statement**
   Director of Administrative Services/CFO Ruby Wilson reported that GCPL ended FY2025 with total revenue of $29,642,322 while expenses totalled $30,148,617.
   b. **FY2026 Budget Adjustment 1**
   Motion made by Joseph to adopt the proposed 2026 budget of $31,988,810. Seconded by Kelly, Unanimous. APPROVED

6. **Election of Officers**

Motion made by Joseph to elect Jonathan "JT" Wu as Chairperson of the Gwinnett County Public Library Board of Trustees for 2026. Seconded by Carlson, Unanimous. APPROVED

Motion made by Wu to elect Brian Carlson as Vice Chairperson of the Gwinnett County Public Library Board of Trustees for 2026. Seconded by Kelly, Unanimous. APPROVED

Motion made by Wu to elect Dr. Kathy Lee as Secretary of the Gwinnett County Public Library Board of Trustees for 2026. Seconded by Kelly, Unanimous. APPROVED

Motion made by Lee to elect Dr. Jann Joseph as Treasurer of the Gwinnett County Public Library Board of Trustees for 2026. Seconded by Kelly, Unanimous. APPROVED

7. **Minutes Pending Approval**

   Motion made by Carlson to approve the November 17, 2025 Board Meeting Minutes. Seconded by Kelly, Unanimous. APPROVED

8. **Executive Session**

   Motion made by Joseph for the Board to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussion or deliberation on the Executive Director's FY 2026 compensation. Seconded by Carlson, Unanimous. APPROVED

   Open meeting moved into Executive Session at 6:36 PM

9. **Open Meeting Resumes**

   Motion made by Kelly to resume the open meeting following the Executive Session. Seconded by Joseph, Unanimous. APPROVED

   Open meeting resumed at 7:15 PM.

10. **FY2025 Director's Compensation Resolution**

    Motion made by Carlson to table taking action on the resolution for the Director's FY 2026 Compensation until a special meeting can be scheduled. Seconded by Kelly, Unanimous. APPROVED

11. **Other Business**

    No other business was discussed.

12. **Adjournment**

    Motion made by Kelly to adjourn the January 12, 2026 Board Meeting. Seconded by Joseph, Unanimous. APPROVED

Meeting adjourned at 7:16 PM.

APPROVED 03/16/2026