



City of Madison

City of Madison
Madison, WI 53703
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Meeting Minutes - Draft MADISON PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD

*Consider: Who benefits? Who is burdened?
Who does not have a voice at the table?
How can policymakers mitigate unintended consequences?*

Thursday, April 9, 2026

5:00 PM

Central Library, 201 W. Mifflin St. Rm. 104

Call to Order/Roll Call

Present: 6 - Sabrina V. Madison; Lisa C. Hempstead; Plumer B. Lovelace III; Elizabeth M. Pierson; Salud B. Garcia and Genevieve A. Carter

Absent: 2 - Thomas A. DeChant and Jolynne M. Roorda

A quorum was present and the meeting properly noticed. Lisa Hempstead called the meeting to order at 5:01pm.

Alder Sabrina Madison attended via telephone.

MPL staff present: Tana Elias, Krissy Wick (phone), Molly Warren, Lori Suiter, Holly Storck-Post, Isis Newman, Yesianne Ramirez, Craig Holler, Rosemary Medrano, Mark Benno

Also present: Conor Moran

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Lovelace III, seconded by Garcia, to Approve the Minutes. The motion passed by voice vote/other.

Public Comment

1. [92603](#) Public Comment - Madison Public Library Board - April 9, 2026

No public comment was made.

Disclosures and Recusals

No disclosures or recusals were made.

Board Exchange

New Business

2. [92614](#) Ban Appeal of Richard Rathmann

A motion was made by Garcia, seconded by Pierson, to hear the appeal. The board heard from the appellant and library staff.

At 5:28pm Hempstead called for motion to go into closed session which would reopen at 5:45pm. A motion was made by Garcia, seconded by Lovelace, to go into closed session. The motion passed by the following vote:

Garcia - aye
Lovelace - aye
Madison - aye
Pierson - aye
Carter - aye
Hempstead - aye

The board deliberated and a motion was made by Garcia, seconded by Carter, to uphold the ban. The motion passed by voice vote/other.

At 5:45pm Hempstead called for a motion to return to open session. A motion was made by Pierson, seconded by Lovelace, to return to open session. The motion passed by the following vote:

Garcia - aye
Lovelace - aye
Madison - aye
Pierson - aye
Carter - aye
Hempstead - aye

3. [92549](#) Director's Report - March, 2026

A motion was made by Pierson, seconded by Garcia, to Approve. The motion passed by voice vote/other.

4. [92383](#) Approval of the February 2026 Financial Reports.

A motion was made by Carter, seconded by Lovelace III, to Approve. The motion passed by voice vote/other.

5. [92384](#) Approval of the Madison Public Library 2027 Capital Budget Request.

A motion was made by Lovelace III, seconded by Pierson, to Approve. The motion passed by voice vote/other.

6. [92385](#) Review changes to the previously reported 2025 carry forward funds.

A motion was made by Carter, seconded by Pierson, to Approve. The motion passed by voice vote/other.

7. [92550](#) Approve the 2026 Adjacent County Reimbursement Request

A motion was made by Lovelace III, seconded by Carter, to Approve. The motion passed by voice vote/other.

Discussion Items

8. [84567](#) Updates on the Imagination Center at Reindahl Park

Lisa Hempstead left the meeting at 6:30pm. Secretary/Treasurer Salud Garcia took over as chair of the meeting.

Formation of a subcommittee to study the Dane County Formula

A motion was made by Carter, seconded by Pierson, to form a subcommittee to study the Dane County Formula. The motion passed by voice vote/other.

The subcommittee members will be Carter, Garcia, and DeChant.

Facilities Report

Mark Benno provided a written report which can be found attached to the Director's Report.

Foundation Report

Conor Moran reported that Foundation staff is hard at work on Lunch for Libraries which has already raised over \$140,000 which about a month to go. 862 attendees are expected and the author is Jesmyn Ward, whose latest book will be released two weeks after Lunch for Libraries. Attendees will get copies of the book. MPLF just got endowment distributions from Madison Community Foundation and those funds will be communicated with Library finance and distributed to library locations. Tana Elias and Conor Moran were both on the news on Library Giving Day.

South Central Library System Report

Gen Carter was not able to attend the last SCLS meeting, but Tana Elias attended in her place. Carter urged other board members to consider serving as the MPL Board rep on the SCLS board. Elias provided a written report which can be found attached to the Director's Report.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Pierson, seconded by Lovelace III, to Adjourn. The motion passed by voice vote/other.

The meeting adjourned at 6:50pm.