

**Hamtramck Public Library
Library Board
2360 Caniff Ave., Hamtramck, MI 48212
Minutes from May 14, 2026**

Board Members present at the meeting: Ray Bittner, Rachel Srodek, George Gorday (on Zoom) Valerie Hillery (on Zoom) and Gregory Kirchner. State Law allows library boards to continue to meet on Zoom.

Absent: Sandra Jabril

The meeting was opened at 6:00 PM. All participants had an opportunity to pick up the reports prior to the meeting.

As the first order of business - agenda was adopted on a motion by Ms. Srodek, seconded by Ms. Hillery, passed.

April 16, 2026, meeting minutes were read and adopted on a motion by Ms. Srodek, seconded by Ms. Hillery, passed.

Financial reports and invoice listings were discussed and adopted on a motion by Ms. Srodek, seconded by Ms. Hillery, passed.

Under the old business:

An update was presented regarding the library staff.

Activities of Friends of the library were discussed. They consisted of operating the copy machines, purchasing supplies for the library, providing refreshments for library programs, and providing prizes for the children's reading program.

The library budget for the fiscal year of 2027-28 was discussed. It would be similar to the current budget. A motion was made and seconded to approve the budget modeled on the current budget. A copy of the proposed budget shall be included in the next month's report.

Update on the installation of replacement computers for the public use (10) units. The purchase was delayed due to credit card verification information being sent to the bank instead of the library. The new manager of PNC Hamtramck has informed us that she will rectify the situation.

We have hired a company to wash the outside of library windows, 127 panes that have not been washed since installation over 20 years ago.

Under new business:

Statistics on the use of the library have been discussed.

The library had a meeting with the Hamtramck Building Department to discuss what steps would need to be taken in order to convert the library garden into a park. Architectural drawings will be needed and the dirt in the garden will have to be brought to a prescribed level. Some samples of the drawing are available for the board members to examine.

The secondary air conditioning system was discussed. Blue Ray company has given us a quote for installation of heat pumps (4 units), which would supplement the main air conditioning system (which is not sufficient to cool the building when outside temperatures go over 90 degrees.) A suggestion was made to get another quote from KOZ heating and cooling. Switching the company would mean that the system would not be operational this season. Blue Ray company has already secured equipment and was equipped to install the system this season. A decision was made to allow Blue Ray to complete the installation to make sure that the cooling capacity of the library building will be operational this summer.

The officers of the library board held election for the year of 2026-27. A motion was made and seconded to re-elect all the officers to their current positions. It passed unanimously.

President – Raymond Bittner
Vice President – George Gorday
Treasurer – Rachel Srodek
Secretary – Sandra Jabril
Trustee – Valerie Hillery

A discussion developed regarding the landscaping around the library. It would be nice to get some flowers and decorative bushes planted. We need to get quotes for the cost of maintaining decorative landscape from professional providers. A budget will be set for that service at future meetings.

Motion to adjourn was made by Ms. Srodek, seconded by Ms. Hillery, passed at 7:00 pm. The next meeting was set for Thursday, June 11, 2026.

Minutes taken by
Gregory Kirchner
Executive Assistant to the Library Board