

**Belleville Area District Library Board
Regular Meeting Agenda
February 10, 2026 at 7:30 PM**

The Belleville Area District Library Board will meet in person in the library's 2nd floor Conference Room.

Agenda:

1. Pledge of Allegiance
2. Roll Call: Cichewicz, Fleming, Jackson-Smith, Peters, Priest, Stoudemire
3. Approve Agenda
4. Approve January 13, 2026 Regular Meeting Minutes
5. Public Comments
6. Committee Reports
 - A. Building-Cichewicz
 - B. Bylaws-Priest
 - a. Resolution to Fill a Board Vacancy
 - C. Finance-Stoudemire
 - D. Outreach-Jackson-Smith
 - E. Personnel-Priest
 - F. Policy-Fleming
 - G. Art
7. Approve Accounts Payable
8. Director's Report/Comments/Communications
9. Trustee Comments
10. Chair Comments
11. Adjournment

Any citizen wishing to provide input or ask questions about any agenda item may speak during the meeting's Public Comments section or forward comments to the Library Director in advance by leaving a message at 734-699-3291 or via the Contact Information found at www.belleville.lib.mi.us. Any citizen requesting accommodation to attend this meeting may contact the library at least 24 hours prior to the meeting, using the above contact information.

Next Regular BADL Board Meeting: March 10, 2026, at 7:30 PM

Belleville Area District Library
Meeting Minutes
Date: January 13, 2026

1. **Call to Order:** Chair Sharon Peters called the meeting to order at 7:40 pm.
2. **Moment of Silence:** The board held a moment of silence for the passing of library board trustee Alma Hughes-Grubbs.
3. **Roll Call:** The following board members were present: Joy Cichewicz, Dan Fleming, Maria Jackson-Smith, Sharon Peters, Linda Priest, and Tanya Stoudemire.
Also present: Library Director Mary Jo Suchy, Library Assistant Director Hilary Savage.
4. **Selection of 2026 Board Officers:** Motion by Jackson-Smith, seconded by Fleming, to nominate the following slate of officers: Sharon Peters, Chair; Linda Priest, Vice-Chair; Joy Cichewicz, Secretary; and Tanya Stoudemire, Treasurer. There were no other nominations. The motion carried unanimously.
5. **Approve Agenda:** Motion by Priest, seconded by Stoudemire, to approve the January 13, 2026, agenda as presented. The motion carried unanimously.
6. **Approve December 9, 2025, Minutes:** Motion by Cichewicz, seconded by Priest, to approve the December 9, 2025, minutes as presented. The motion carried unanimously.
7. **Public Comments:** No Comments.
8. **Committee Reports:**
 - A. **Building:** No report.
 - B. **Bylaws:** Library attorney, Anne Seuryneck, is looking at the current bylaws and will provide a bylaws template for the board.
 - C. **Finance:** Stoudemire presented the results of the audit. The library received an unmodified opinion (the best opinion possible). Revenue was higher than budgeted and expenditures were lower than budgeted.
 - D. **Outreach:** No Report.
 - E. **Personnel:**
 - a. **Director's Evaluation:** Priest reported the results of the director's evaluation. Director Suchy performed her job at a very high level in all categories. Suchy's goals for 2026 were reviewed. Motion by Cichewicz, seconded by Jackson-Smith, to give Suchy a 4% salary increase. The motion carried unanimously.
 - b. **Salary Range Recommendations:** The board reviewed the staff salary range recommendations and updated the director's salary range to a minimum salary of \$84,630 and a maximum salary of \$109,809. Motion

by Cichewiz, seconded by Stoudemire, to accepted the salary range recommendations as amended. The motion carried unanimously.

F. Policy: No Report.

G. Art: New art is on display.

9. **Approve Accounts Payable:** Motion by Cichewicz, seconded by Priest, to approve the accounts payable as presented. The motion carried unanimously.
10. **Director's Report:** See attached. Suchy expressed her grief at the death of board Secretary Alma Hughes-Grubbs. After discussion, it was agreed that the bylaws committee will meet to establish a process for appointing an interim board member until the next election.
11. **Trustee Comments:** Board members also expressed their grief at the loss of Alma and shared their memories of her.
12. **Chair Comments:** Noted that Alma was well loved and had so much heart. She served the community very well.
13. **Adjournment:** Motion to adjourn by Fleming, seconded by Priest. The meeting adjourned at 9:12 pm.

BELLEVILLE AREA DISTRICT LIBRARY
RESOLUTION NO. 2026-1

Resolution to Fill a Library Board Member Vacancy

WHEREAS, Pursuant to MCL 397.181(1)(h) of the District Library Establishment Act (1989 PA 24):

“A vacancy in the office of a board member shall be filled until the expiration of the vacating board member's term by appointment by majority vote of the remaining board members. If the vacancy occurs 140 or more days before the first regularly scheduled election of board members that follows the beginning of the term of the board member vacating office and that term is 4 years, all of the following apply:

- (i) The vacancy shall be filled by appointment by majority vote of the remaining board members only until the next date on which the term of any board member expires.
- (ii) A board member shall be elected at the regularly scheduled election of board members next following the occurrence of the vacancy to fill the vacancy for the remainder of the term of the board member vacating office.”

WHEREAS, Belleville Area District Library board member Alma Hughes-Grubbs passed away on January 7, 2026;

WHEREAS, the term of office being vacated is 4 years;

WHEREAS, the vacancy of this office occurred more than 140 days before the next regularly scheduled election of board members;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Belleville Area District Library Board appoints _____, a resident of the district, to the library board until December 31, 2026.

MOTION:

SECOND:

YEAS:

NAYS:

ABSENT:

VOTE:

Belleville Area District Library Secretary

01/27/2026

CHECK DISBURSEMENT REPORT FOR BELLEVILLE AREA DISTRICT LIBRARY
CHECK DATE 01/08/2026 - 01/27/2026

Check Date	Payee	Description	Account	Amount
Fund: 101 Gener				
01/20/2026	A PRODUCTION BUILDING SOLUTION	JAN CLEANING 2026	931.000	3,920.00
01/20/2026	AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	COMP HARD/SOFTWARE MAINT	820.000	13.48
		OFFICE SUPPLIES	730.000	62.07
		BOOKS & MATLS	981.000	87.00
		PROGRAM & OFFICE SUPP	950.002	41.85
		BOOKS & MATLS	981.000	109.13
		PROGRAM SUPPLIES	950.002	29.99
		BOOKS & MATLS	981.000	66.71
		BOOKS & MATLS	981.000	24.97
		PROGRAM SUPPLIES	950.002	133.98
		PROGRAM SUPPLIES	950.002	16.89
				586.07
01/20/2026	ANDREW KERCHER	HISTORY OF MI IN 10 SHIPWRECKS PROGRAM	950.001	250.00
01/20/2026	ARBOR INSPECTION SERVICES LLC	ANNUAL FIRE SPRINKLER INSPECT - JAN26	931.000	600.00
01/20/2026	BELLEVILLE CENTRAL BUS. COMM	2025 CHRISTMAS COLORING BOOK PAGE	901.005	60.00
01/20/2026	BLUE CROSS BLUE SHIELD OF MICH	DENTAL	716.000	767.16
01/20/2026	CLEAR RATE COMMUNICATIONS	TELEPHONES	851.000	445.36
01/20/2026	DTE ENERGY	SUMPT. ELECT/GAS	921.000	152.78
		SUMPT. ELECT/GAS	922.000	110.43
				263.21
01/20/2026	DTE ENERGY	4TH STREET GAS	921.000	1,151.57
		4TH STREET GAS	922.000	0.00
				1,151.57
01/20/2026	ODP BUSINESS SOLUTIONS LLC	BLDG SUPPLIES	775.000	130.32
		OFFICE SUPPLIES	730.000	97.87
				228.19
01/20/2026	PRINCIPAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPA	EMPLOYEE LIFE INSURANCE FEB 2026	716.000	601.56
01/20/2026	SHARON DUCKWORTH, CPA	ACCOUNTING SERVICES - JAN 2026	805.000	1,125.00
01/20/2026	SUMPTER TOWNSHIP	SUMPTER WATER	923.000	111.45
01/20/2026	THE LIBRARY NETWORK	RING CENTRAL DEC 25, BELL20	851.000	509.71
		ACQUISITIONS JAN-MAR 26, BELL20	809.002	1,547.56
		DIRECT SHIP & HOOPLA - DEC 25, BELL20	981.000	12,949.50
		AUTOMATION JAN-MAR 26, BELL20	809.003	10,584.20
		QUARTERLY TELECOM, BELL20	851.002	3,324.33
				28,915.30
01/20/2026	TIMESLIPS CREATIVE STORYTELLING, INC	TRAINING WORKSHOP W/CERTIFICATION	863.000	1,200.00
01/20/2026	UNIQUE MANAGEMENT SERVICES INC	DEC 2025 PLACEMENTS	809.001	145.80
01/20/2026	UNITED FOR LIBRARIES	ENGLISH/SPANISH BOOKS FOR BABIES KITS	950.002	360.00
01/20/2026	VANESSA IVY ROSE	HALL OF FAME DNA/STEARNES PROGRAM	950.001	300.00
01/20/2026	WYANDOTTE ALARM COMPANY	COMM. FIRE/RADIO MONITORING 2/1-4/30/26	809.001	297.00
		COMM. RADIO MONITORING 2/1-4/30/26	809.001	165.00
				462.00
Total For Fund: 1				41,492.67
Report Total:				41,492.67

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

February 2026

LIBRARY PROGRAMS

January: Adults: 27 Youth: 15

LIBRARY VISITS	2025/26	2024/25	% change
January	9537	11,591	-17.72%
Fiscal Year	79,291	90,308	-12.20%

TOTAL CIRC	2025/26	2024/25	% change
January	19,014	19,729	-3.62%
Fiscal Year	138,321	145,486	-4.92%

ADULT PROGRAMMING	2025/26	2024/25	% change
January	208	140	48.57%
Fiscal Year	1,651	1,173	40.75%

YOUTH/TEEN PROGRAMMING	2025/26	2024/25	% change
January	170	270	-37.04%
Fiscal Year	3,376	2,952	14.36%

REF. QUESTIONS	2025/26	2024/25	% change
January	1,630	1,758	-7.28%
Fiscal Year	10,771	11,472	-6.11%

INTERNET USE	2025/26	2024/25	% change
January	909	893	1.79%
Fiscal Year	7,193	6,727	6.93%

YOUTH/TEEN INTERNET	2025/26	2024/25	% change
January	264	224	17.86%
Fiscal Year	2,179	1,813	20.19%

BUILDING: The price of salt has gone up dramatically, resulting in an increase in fees from our snow removal company. They also are concerned about delays in delivery of salt due to the recent demand.

STAFF: We are undergoing some adjustments in the Youth/Teen Department. Tara McCann is stepping away from her duties as Youth/Teen Services Department Head to focus on being a youth/teen librarian. Librarian Karen Dubke is in training to assume the role of Youth/Teen Services Department Head. The transition will be complete beginning March 9. Tara has told me that she looks forward to this transition, and I wish both well in their new roles.

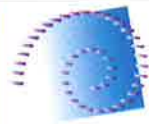
Outgoing staff: Library Clerk Kali Harrison.

SERVICES: Thanks to a contribution from the Friends of the Library, we are offering free book bags to new parents and their babies. Each bag contains a board book to keep, some information and tips about early literacy, information about the library, and more.

Tonies are now available for check out in the children's room! Tonies are basically an audio player and figurines for kids. The Toniebox plays songs and/or stories when you place a Tonie figurine on top.

PROGRAMMING: Classic Movie Night returns this Thursday (February 12 at 6 pm) and will feature *Some Like It Hot*, directed by Billy Wilder. The Warren Astronomical Society will present an outdoor program, *Observing the Night Sky*, outside of the Sumpter Media Center on Thursday, February 26 at 6:30 pm. Genealogists from the Fred Hart William Genealogical Society will provide expert guidance on African American family history research at a program called *Telling Your Stories, Finding Your Roots*, on Saturday, February 21st at 2 pm.

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY: The Friends' annual meeting was well attended. I noted at their meeting how instrumental they are in all that the library does, including helping to fund the jazz programs, the Memory Café, and our summer reading programs. Nikki made a thank you video for them featuring attendees from some of our programs, our library staff, Hilary, Sharon, and myself. Jenn spoke to them about our Memory Café.



BELLEVILLE AREA
DISTRICT LIBRARY

CLASSIC MOVIE NIGHT

MARILYN MONROE
and her bosom companions
TONY CURTIS
JACK LEMMON
BILLY WILDER

SOME
LIKE
IT
HOT



SOME LIKE IT HOT

DIRECTED BY: BILL WILDER

STARRING: MARILYN MONROE, TONY
CURTIS, JACK LEMMON, GEORGE
RAFT, JOE E. BROWN

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2026

6:00 PM



PRESENTED BY

Friends of the
BELLEVILLE AREA
DISTRICT LIBRARY



Sweet Dreamzzz

Helping Your Child Build
Healthy Sleeping Habits

Thursday, February 12, 2026
5-6:30pm



All are welcome at this FREE family event
for caregivers and children
3-8 years old! Join us for:

R.E.A.D.Y Bedtime Routine presentation
and handout materials

Pizza dinner served

Crafts and giveaways

Free blanket and teddy bear
for every registered child ages 3-8

Siblings welcome. Registration recommended.
Walk-ins welcome if space is available.

www.guidance-center.org/sweetdreamz



Belleville Area District Library
167 Fourth St., Belleville, MI 48111

For more info contact Jane Reitman at 734-272-3745
or jreitman@guidance-center.org.

Head Start families contact Leslie Windless at
734-262-6836 or lwindless@guidance-center.org.



THE
GUIDANCE
CENTER

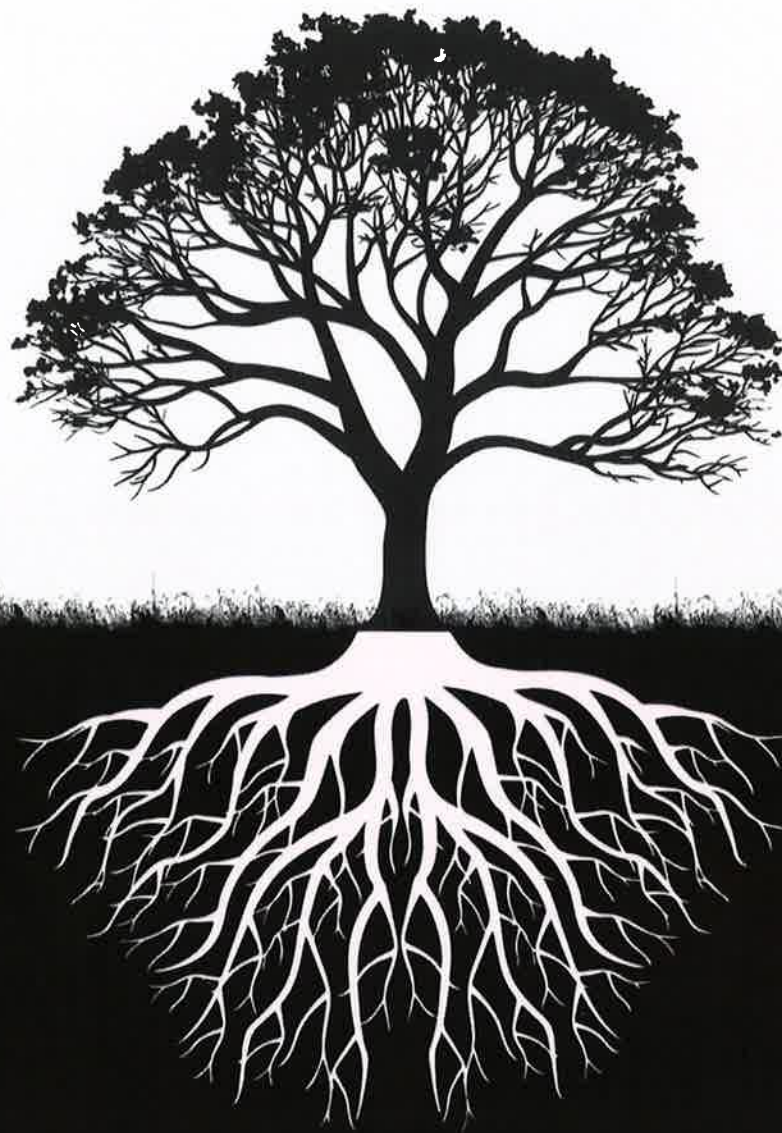
NURTURE THE FUTURE
Family Resources & Support

BELLEVILLE AREA
DISTRICT LIBRARY



HEAD START

Telling Your Stories, Finding Your Roots



Sat,
Feb
21st
@ 2pm

Please join Omer Jean Winborn and Cheryl Garnett, President and Vice President of the Fred Hart Williams Genealogical Society, as they discuss their genealogical journeys and provide expert guidance on African American family history research.



MAIN LIBRARY
167 4th St.
Belleville, MI 48111
(734) 699-3291



**BELLEVILLE AREA
DISTRICT LIBRARY**

www.belleville.lib.mi.us

SUMPTER MEDIA CENTER
23465 Sumpter Rd.
Belleville, MI 48111
(734) 699-3291

WARREN ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY
@ BELLVILLE AREA DISTRICT LIBRARY

OBSERVING THE NIGHT SKY ✦

Join us for an evening of
✦ stargazing with members of the
Warren Astronomical Society



**Sumpter
Media Center
February 26
at 7:00 pm**



MAIN LIBRARY
167 4th St.
Belleville, MI 48111
(734) 699-3291



**BELLEVILLE AREA
DISTRICT LIBRARY**

www.belleville.lib.mi.us

SUMPTER MEDIA CENTER
23465 Sumpter Rd.
Belleville, MI 48111
(734) 699-3291

The Belleville Area District Library presents



BELLEVILLE LIBRARY CHESS TOURNAMENT

FEBRUARY 28TH, 2026

in the Library's Cozadd Room.

**10
AM**

Until 5PM

**REGISTER
ONLINE**

Are you interested in testing your abilities and taking on new challenges? Come to the Belleville Library Chess Tournament and compete for honor and amazing prizes! All ages and experience levels welcome! Registration required.



**ALL AGES
WELCOME!**

For more info please visit : <https://www.belleville.lib.mi.us/> or call
734-699-3291



Mackinac Straits History

Presented by
Andrew Kercher, Historian

Wednesday, March 4, 2026 @ 6:30 PM

Mackinac Island, a favorite among Michiganders, boasts a rich history of indigenous cultures, fur trading, and fudge. Historian Andrew Kercher will share his experiences of wearing a wool uniform and winter life on the island while working at the Grand Hotel.

