



Meeting Minutes: Dakota County Library Advisory Committee

Date: 07/10/2025
Time: 5:30pm
Minutes prepared by: Chrissy Harrington
Location: Heritage Library

Attendance:

- Ann Matthews-Baussion District 2
- Robin Cerio District 3
- Kari Cahn District 4
- Lee Knutson District 5
- Patricia Schoenecker District 7
- Olivia Tri At-Large Youth
- Margaret Stone Director
- Jennifer Reichert Simpson Deputy Director
- Michael Wiese Project Manager Dakota County Capital Projects Management
- Samantha Turnock Mendiola Design Principal HGA
- Tamar Ribnick Principal HGA
- Chrissy Harrington Sr Library Administration

Call to Order:

- The meeting was called to order by Robin Cerio at 5:30pm. There were no public members in attendance during this meeting.

Consent Agenda

- The Consent agenda from May 8, 2025, meeting was approved unanimously.

Heritage Library: Margaret Stone Library Director

- Margaret Stone presented the Heritage Library update due to Branch Manager Stephanie Opstad receiving the Melvin Jones Fellowship Award Sponsored by the Lakeville Lion's Club at the same time as the meeting
- Heritage Library Celebrated the library 25th Anniversary on February 27th 2025
- Heritage Library has several new staff contributing their talents to library efforts
- The Heritage License Center parking lot has been very busy these past couple of months due to the deadline for the Real ID and the parking lot has been full
- Heritage has added Feeding your Baby which is a partnership with Dakota County Public Health that provides staff and resources, along with a certified lactation consultant once a month after Baby Storytime.
- Heritage Library had hosted the largest county Fixit Clinic of the year last month
- 88 residents brought in 109 items and 69 were fixed keeping 530.25 pounds out of the landfill
- Heritage staff is working with the (YAS and) Friends of the Library to plan for OneBook, OneLakeville 2026
- Lynette Cargill (a current Library Advisory Committee Member) is the new President of the Heritage Friends of the Library
- Heritage Friends of the Library is hosting an open house/membership drive on July 17th, 2025 from 5:30pm to 7:30pm
- Friends of the Heritage Library annual Book Sale is September 18th-21st 2025
- The Adult Services Librarian is fluent in Spanish and increasingly/regularly provides translation support for our customers
- The Adult Services Librarian partnered with ISD 194 Adult Basic Education to show English Language Learners resources, technology and spaces available to them
- Tomas Araya will be the library's artist in residence in the fall and will facilitate an event at the Heritage Library
- Summer Discovery Program is going great this summer with 2,500 summer readers so far and have had 15 volunteers supporting the program

Burnhaven Renovation

- Presenters were Michael Wiese Project Manager Dakota County Capital Projects Management
- Samantha Turnock Mendiola Design Principal HGA and Tamar Ribnick Principal HGA
- Burnhaven Renovation project started in the Spring of 2025
- Samantha Turnock Mendiola from HGA Architect Firm walked the committee members through the design plan for the Burnhaven Library

- The proposed design includes an enhanced children's area, moving and making the space more functional for the public meeting room, adding a quiet zone and additional study and conference rooms
- Kari Cahn made the motion Patricia Schoenecker second to recommend the design. Library Advisory Committee Members approved unanimously to recommend this design plan to the Dakota County Board of Commissioners

Request for review of Self-Service Hours access denial

- The committee members reviewed a request to reverse a revoked Self-Service Hours access registration
- The committee considered that the user agreement states not to loan Self-Service Access card to others and the staff's explanation to the customer not to loan the card. Knowing who is accessing the library and responsible for guest is an important safety feature of Self-Service Hours. The customer continues to have access to the library during staffed hours.
- A motion by Patricia Schoenecker and seconded by Oliva Tri to retain revoked Self-Service Hours access to this customer. The vote passed unanimously.

Director's Report

- Pride Month efforts went well with minimum disruptions
- 14,000 youth have participated in the Summer Discovery Reading program so far
- If the child or teen meets their goal by the end of the summer, they receive a book
- In a survey it states that 99 percent of people read more in the summertime than any other time of the year
- The library Van on the Go outreach program has served over 10,000 people so far this year
- The Dakota County Library Foundation will start selling tote bags and sticker at each of the 10 libraires location soon to raise awareness of the Foundation
- Libre Office will be replacing Microsoft Office on most public computers at all libraries in the next couple of weeks
- The 2026 budget is still in progress all divisions have been asked to propose budget cuts. The library was asked to propose budgets cuts.
- Margaret announced that she will be retiring in September and her last day with the Library will be September 26th 2025
- There will be a retirement party for Margaret on September 26th from 2pm-4pm at the Wescott Library

Updates from Committee Members

- Kari Cahn said that the road construction on Highway 3 (Robert Trail) has had some disruption when accessing the Robert Trail Library
- The city of Rosemount is putting a roundabout in front of Rosemount High School which is a few blocks from the Robert Trail Library
- Robin Cerio said that she appreciated that Wescott Library put a sign on the front door telling patron's that the door is broke to be careful when coming in and out of the door, the door has now been fixed.

Adjournment

- Meeting ended at 7:00pm

Adjournment/Next Meeting

Date: September 11th, 2025

Time: 5:30pm

Location: Farmington Library- Farmington