



Blount County Public Library (BCPL) DRAFT Minutes

19 May 2026

Trustees Attending: Board Chair, Greg Brakebill; Board Vice Chair, Richard Fogg; Dexter Stewart; Kyle Anderson; Shawn Graham; Dawn Reagan; Kathleen Christy

Staff Attending: Director, Dustin Goforth; Deputy Director, Anjanae Brueland; Executive Administrative Assistant, Summer Dale

Visitors: President of the Blount County Friends Of the Library (BCFOL), Vandy Kemp; The Foundation for the Blount County Public Library Representative, Robert McClellan; The Daily Times Journalist – Marcus Fitzsimmons

I. Welcome & Call to Order

- Board Chair Greg Brakebill called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm.

II. Approval of Meeting Minutes – 21 April 2026

Richard Fogg made a motion to approve the 21 April 2026 Board of Trustees Meeting minutes. Dexter Stewart seconded the motion. The motion carried.

- Shawn Graham thanked Richard Fogg for his great leadership as acting Chair during the April Board of Trustees meeting.

III. Introduction of Guests & Public Comment (2 minutes per person)

- A. The Board heard comments from 2 members of the public.

IV. Board of Trustees Chair Report by Greg Brakebill:

- Greg thanked Richard for his leadership at last month's meeting
- He gave a brief report on upcoming programs.
 - No action was taken.

V. BCPL Director's Report by Director Dustin Goforth:

- Dustin discussed his one-year anniversary and thanked the Board for being a part of this life-change.
- He shared that BCPL is now fully staffed. The newest addition being Karah Tull in Youth Services.
- Dustin discussed the continued work on the Strategic Plan and the beginning of Summer Reading on June 6th with Touch-A-Truck.
- The Bookie Monster will be closed for Memorial Day.



- No action was taken.

VI. BCPL Deputy Director's Financial Report by Anjanae Brueland:

- A corrected financial narrative was handed out before the Board Meeting began.
- Revenues are doing well, and the Bookmark Café is currently above projections by 20%.
- Anjanae shared that we are closing out POs with the end of the fiscal year.
 - No action was taken.

VII. Reports from Supporting Organizations

A. Foundation for the Blount County Public Library by Robert McClelland

- Robert shared that the Foundation is working on updating their donor list, grant tracking, and creating a new website.

B. Blount County Friends of the Library (BCFOL) by Vandy Kemp

- Vandy shared that the next quarterly book sale is on June 4-6th, and that the Ops team is working really hard.
- There will be an annual membership meeting on June 13th at 10am. If you would like to attend, please RSVP.
- The eBay team just wrapped their 3rd training for other Friends groups, which has been highly successful.

C. Ocoee River Regional Library Report by Liz Schreck

- The Ocoee River Regional Library Report, and the READS FY 2023-24 Data Statistics were distributed by email prior to the meeting.
- Liz shared an annual reminder that the 2026 LSTA Tech Grant is due May 30th and the 2027 LSTA Grant is due July 10th.
- May 30th is the Tennessee Statehood Day celebration at the State Library and Archives.
- Liz congratulated Kathleen Christy for completing her Trustee certification.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS:

- ##### **A.**
- Petitioning, Polling Place, and Political Campaign Policy was discussed.

Richard made a motion to approve the revised Petitioning, Polling Place, and Political Campaign Policy. Shawn Graham seconded the motion. The motion carried.

- ##### **B.**
- Borrowing Privileges Policy was discussed.

- New language was suggested: "BCPL may, at the discretion of the library director or their designee and for valid reasons, refuse to issue a library card, specifically"; "Appeals of a denial of a library card may be directed to the board of Trustees within 30 days."
- This discussion was tabled until the next meeting.

IX. NEW BUSINESS:



- A. The Board of Trustees' Information Sheet was presented and discussed.
 - Minor formatting revisions were noted.
 - It was determined not to format this sheet like the typical policies.
 - i. No action was taken.
- B. The Confidentiality of Library Records Policy was presented and discussed.
 - There was much discussion on aligning the policy with state law, parental responsibility, and staff legal protection.
 - It was suggested to have the County attorney review this policy and for it to align with the Borrowing Privileges policy, and vice versa.
 - i. No action was taken.
- C. Director Annual Evaluation
 - Dustin's annual evaluation summary was presented.
 - The evaluation, signed by the Board Chair, will be forwarded to County HR.
 - Summer shared her gratitude for Dustin's leadership over this first year. The Board members echoed these sentiments.
- D. Nominating Committee Recommendations for FY2026-2027
 - The nominating committee recommends:
 - i. Dexter Stewart, Board Chair
 - ii. Richard Fogg, Vice Board Chair
 - iii. Summer Dale, Board Secretary

Kathleen Christy made a motion to accept the Nominating Committee's recommendations. Shawn Graham seconded the motion. The motion carried.

X. Important Dates:

- A. Other Library Meetings
 - Blount County Commission Meeting – 21 May 2026, 6:00 pm – BC Courthouse
 - Blount County Friends of the Library – 26 May 2026, 4:00 pm – BCPL
 - Foundation for the Blount County Public Library – 19 June 2026, 8:00 am – BCPL
 - Maryville City Council – 2 June 2026, 7:00 pm – Maryville Municipal Bldg
 - Alcoa Board of Commissioners – 9 June 2026, 7:00 pm – Alcoa Municipal Bldg
- B. Next Library Board Meeting – 16 June 2026, 5:30 pm, Sharon Lawson Room

XI. Adjournment & Closing Comments

- A. On July 1st, Brandon Everhart will take over the remainder of Greg Brakebill's term on the Board.
- B. On June 2nd, the City of Maryville will determine who will be taking Robert White's seat on the Board.
- C. Determining a replacement for Dawn Reagan's seat may take more time since she is a Commissioner. We will have a vacancy until Blount County appointments are nominated in the latter part of the year.



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D. Kathleen Christy shared her appreciation for Dustin's, Anjanae's, and Vandy's participation in the Spelling Bee.

Dexter Stewart made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Richard Fogg seconded the motion. The motion carried.

- The next Library Board meeting will be held on 16 June 2026 at 5:30 pm, in the Sharon Lawson room.

Respectfully submitted,
Summer Dale