

BROOKINGS PUBLIC LIBRARY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
February 12, 2026
MEETING MINUTES

The Board of Trustees of the Brookings Public Library met on Thursday, February 12, at 11:45 am in the Historical Room at the Brookings Public Library.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Kathy Miller, Mark Binkley, Denise Hall, and Moriah Flanagan

OTHERS PRESENT: Ashia Gustafson, Shane Andreasen

1. Call to Order

Mark Binkley called the meeting to order.

2. Approval of Agenda

Denise Hall amended the agenda to correct the date for approval of minutes from January 2025 to January 2026. Mark Binkley approved the agenda with changes.

3. Approval of Minutes

Mark Binkley approved the meeting minutes from January 15, 2026.

4. Public Comment

No comments.

5. Old Business

6. Other Items & Reports

6.1 Financial Report

Ashia Gustafson presented a review of the 2026 budget through January to the Library Board members. Moriah Flanagan asked for more information about the UMS category in the Fines budget. Ashia Gustafson explained that UMS is an acronym for Unique Management Systems and she explained how their company works specifically with Libraries to assist in retrieving lost materials and past due fees.

6.2 Librarian's Report

Programming:

Children: Both sessions of spring music makers are full and about half of the families are new to the program. Story time has moved to Wednesday's and the families seem to be enjoy the change. The first two Wonder Wednesday programs have been well attended. Katherine Eberline and Kristin Prout performed a puppet show on Tuesday, February 10, for the SDSU Preschool parent open house. Reorganization the newly installed shelving is almost complete.

Teen: Activities continue to be well attended with 11 teens attending the New Year's Party, 4 teens attending book bedazzling, 8 teens attending Workshop Wednesday, 13 teens registering for book and graphic novel clubs, and 13 teens signing up for Snack Club. Teens in the Kitchen recently made Oreo truffles and the Workshop Wednesday program included creating Valentine's magnets.

Adult: Pie and Puzzles had 29 participants and the Valley restaurant in Volga donated the pies again. The first silent book club had around 16 attendees and the feedback given in the post program survey was overwhelmingly positive. Silent Book Club will be offered every other month and then the program will be reassessed in the fall. The Interactive Mystery Game was very successful with 62 participants in 12 teams playing over the course of 3 nights.

Tech: The new laser printer is operational and the first certification training for the public will be later in February. Nancy Swenson filled out the final report for the Lowe's Hometowns grant and the City of Brookings has received the final disbursement, so the grant is officially complete.

Other: Recent calculations suggest that Brookings Public Library patrons saved \$5,053,789 by borrowing materials instead of buying. That includes physical books, audiobooks, music CDs, movies, video games, board games, puzzles, state park passes, maker kits, e-books, e-audiobooks, and more! To determine that number, each checkout is assigned an average cost if a patron were to purchase the item on their own. For example, \$25 for physical books, \$15 for DVDs, or \$20 for e-books. Digital downloads from Libby and Hoopla accounted for more than \$1,500,000 of the total amount.

7. New Business

7.1 Approval of Bills

The Library Board members reviewed the January 2026 bills, budgets, and expenditures. Kathy Miller moved for approval. Moriah Flanagan seconded. Motion carried.

7.2 Annual State Report

Ashia Gustafson reviewed the Annual State Report with the Library Board. Denise Hall moved for approval. Moriah Flanagan seconded. Motion carried.

7.3 Review of Display Policy

Ashia Gustafson reviewed the Display Policy with the Library Board. Kathy Miller and Moriah Flanagan noted a few spelling errors and suggested some minor rewording to a few categories. Kathy Miller moved to approve the Display Policy with suggested changes. Denise Hall seconded. Motion carried.

8. Items Not on the Agenda

Denise Hall asked how the new Lucky Day display was going. Ashia Gustafson stated that it has been positively received and the display will continue for the foreseeable future; resources allowing.

Denise Hall asked if patrons could place holds on items from other Libraries through the Libby App now that Siouxland Libraries and the Black Hills Digital Consortium are sharing digital materials with the Brookings Public Library. Ashia Gustafson stated that holds can be placed on digital materials from other Libraries, but the patrons from the lending Library will be given priority in the hold queue.

Mark Binkley requested a review of the Library Board Bylaws at the next meeting to discuss changing the monthly meeting time.

9. Next Meeting: Thursday, March 12, 2026, at 11:45 AM in the Historical Room of the Brookings Public Library.

10. Adjournment

The Library Board meeting adjourned at 12:23pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Ashia Gustafson
Director of Library Services