

WARREN PUBLIC LIBRARY COMMISSION

REGULAR MEETING

WARREN CIVIC CENTER LIBRARY – MARK TWAIN ROOM

1 CITY SQUARE SUITE 100

WARREN, MI 48093

APRIL 16, 2026

6:00 p.m.

1. **Call to Order:** Meeting was called to order at 6:02 p.m. by Natalie Piernak.
2. **Roll Call:**
Commissioners Present: Lorie Barnwell, Emma Howard, Natalie Piernak, and William Rudd.
Also Attending: M. McCarville, Director of Warren Public Libraries, C. Murphy, City of Warren Attorney and Henry Newnan, Ex Officio, Warren City Council Representative.
3. **Approval of Agenda:**
 - a. Howard motioned to approve the agenda, supported by Rudd. The motion carried.
4. **Approval of Minutes:**
 - a. **Regular Meeting March 23, 2026**
 - i. Howard motioned to approve the amended March 23, 2026 minutes, supported by Barnwell. The motion carried.
5. **Financial Reports:** McCarville reported on the financial state of the Warren Public Library Branches. YTD expenditures through March 31 were \$3,949,661.63. Branch reports included \$375 for room rental.
6. **Director's Report:**
 - a. **Unique Management:** Continuing to collect money for lost and missing items for the library system. This year 607 accounts have been submitted and we have recovered \$5,780.64 in cash.
 - b. **Branch Updates:** Busch, Burnette and Civic Center will be replacing their EMC signs. City Council approved the increase for security at Burnette.
 - c. **Current Projects:** The bid for magazines was awarded to Magazine Subscription Services. Construction of the new building is progressing and McCarville will be attending the on-site bi-weekly update meetings. They currently are working on the underground electrical and plumbing. They are still on track for completion by the end of November.

- d. Services: Received a check from SLC for ProPay credit transactions totaling \$1,002.68.
- e. Staffing: The Office Assistant at Burnette was transferred to the Controller's Office and the Office Assistant from Civic Center was transferred to Burnette.
- f. Marketing/Outreach: March is Reading month and 241 people participated in the monthlong challenge. Outreach included 16 class visits to the library and 12 school visits. Reports from two librarians who attended Spring Institute are included in the packet.
- g. Discussion items:
 - i. Name of new branch. Barnwell reached out to the Bailey family and they are still looking into it.
 - ii. Election of Officers will take place.
 - iii. Ongoing commission training will begin next month.
 - iv. Director and commission evaluations will be included in the board packet for approval. Discussion regarding timeline for evaluations. Piernak will reach out to HR for guidance.

7. Audience Participation:

There was discussion to confirm that ex officio members are nonvoting and welcome to sit at the table. An audience member stated that the City needs to pay for security, not the library. It was also suggested that we have a sewing program where people can learn how to do repairs like mending holes and replacing buttons and zippers.

8. Action Items:

a. Election of Officers

Chairperson

Howard nominated Piernak for the office of Chair. Piernak accepted the nomination. The Chair inquired if there were further nominations. There being none, nominations were declared closed.

The question being put to a vote, Piernak was elected Chair by unanimous consent.

Vice -Chairperson

Piernak nominated Howard for the office of Vice-Chair. Howard accepted the nomination. The Chair inquired if there were further nominations. There being none, nominations were declared closed.

The question being put to a vote, Howard was elected Vice-Chair by unanimous consent.

Secretary

Piernak nominated Rudd for the office of Secretary. Rudd accepted the nomination. The Chair inquired if there were further nominations. There being none, nominations were declared closed.

The question being put to a vote, Rudd was elected Secretary by unanimous consent.

Treasurer

Rudd nominated Barnwell for the office of Treasurer. Barnwell accepted the nomination. The Chair inquired if there were further nominations. There being none, nominations were declared closed.

The question being put to a vote, Barnwell was elected Treasurer by unanimous consent.

9. **Friends of the Warren Public Library:** Civic Center is weeding the Large Print collection and sent several boxes of discarded books to the Friends of the Library bookstore.
10. **S. L. C. Report:** McCarville attended the SLC Advisory Council meeting. We will be submitting our order for new computers by end of the month.
11. **Commissioner's Comments:** Barnwell discussed naming the special collections room after Mr. Palmer to highlight his contribution to the library and city.
12. **Next Meeting Date:** May 21, 2026
13. **Adjournment:** Rudd motioned to adjourn the meeting, supported by Howard. The motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 6:46 p.m.