

**PHOENIX PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT
MINUTES
FEBRUARY 5, 2026 – 6:00 P.M.**

The meeting was called to order by President, Martina Mahaffey at 6:07pm

MEMBERS PRESENT: M. MAHAFFEY, LOGGINS, PROCTOR-HARRIS, WELLS, DUDLEY AND D. MAHAFFEY

MEMBERS ABSENT: HARPER

Prayer –Proctor-Harris

Public Comment- N/A

Library Clerk Position: The board interviewed Ms. Jenna Starks for the library clerk’s position that has been vacant since December 2025.

MINUTES: A motion was made by Proctor-Harris and seconded by Dudley to approve the January 8, 2026 minutes (Vote: 6-0-0) (Ayes: Mahaffey; Loggins; Proctor-Harris; Wells; Dudley; and D. Mahaffey)

CORRESPONDENCE – Our Library Director received a letter from Cook County Office of the President and RAILS informing the Phoenix Library District that we were approved for the Cook County Digital Navigator Network Mini-Pilot project for funding. The library will receive \$2,695.65 for planned project activities. Board will like to have additional info on this grant.

LIBRARY DIRECTOR REPORT –

- Free tax service began on February 7th and will go to April 11th.
 - **Board comments, suggestions and directions for the Library Director:**
 - We need a begin number and stop number on the door counter
 - The new cards need to be ordered (The funds were approved)
 - We need a calendar for days when the library will be open and closed during the holidays.

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY REPORT- G. Dudley, FOTL Liaison

No Report. Ms. Dudley mentioned that the FOTL did distribute flyers for the black history program & the Sip and Paint)

FINANCE REPORT

- **Library Account:**
 - Beginning Balance - \$26,328.17 (including funds from technology grant- \$ 4,369.68)
 - Deposits –
 - Cook County: \$568.04

Bills paid totaling: \$ 89.49 (Library Acct)

A motion was made by Proctor-Harris and seconded by Dudley to approve the finance report and pay bills totaling \$ 89.49. The vote passed 6-0-0 (Ayes: M. Mahaffey, Proctor-Harris, Loggins, Dudley, Wells, and D. Mahaffey.

OLD BUSINESS

- **Black History Program – February 21, 2026 (11am-4pm) Update:**
 - Performances By:
 - Mt Zion Praise Dancers
 - Thornton H.S. Choir, Unity Choir
 - Speaker – Author Dr. Ricardo Willimas
 - Vendors that have confirmed participation:
 - Sea Moss
 - 2- Sweet Tables
 - Unique Reese-Tshirts
 - Refreshments served: Chips and Water
 - T. Mahaffey and Loggins will work on program
 - Flyers should be sent to all churches

- **Book Club** –Book of the Month *“The President is Missing”*. Loggins indicated that the book club will meet in March.

- **Activities for Seniors and Adults:**
 - **Play- “For Color Girls”** – 20 tickets have been purchased for the play on February 22nd.
 - **Sip and Paint for Seniors (55 & older)** –
 - We have 16 confirmed reservations
 - Wine will be donated
 - 30 canvases were ordered (along with paint brushes, aprons and paper towels)

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Library Clerk Position:** A motion was made by Proctor-Harris and seconded by Dudley to approve the hire of Ms. Jenna Starks as the full-time Library Clerk. Ms. Starks will work Monday-Thursday and Saturdays (Vote 6-0-0: Ayes- T. Mahaffey, Loggins, Proctor-Harris, Dudley, Wells and D. Mahaffey.) Send Ms. Starks a list of board members’ phone numbers.

- **Youth Activity during National Library Week April 19th thru 25th:**
 - Poetry Month –Theme “Find your Joy”
 - Students will receive info on March 2nd, they will have 1month to submit their poem
 - Older students will need to submit a video
 - Deadline for poetry submission March 22nd.
 - Prizes will go the 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners
 - All poetry participants will be taken to the Imagine Theater

Meeting Adjourned at 7:26pm

Next meeting March 5, 2026