GARY PUBLIC LIBRARY
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MONDAY, May 18, 2026

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:
Dr. Lucille Washington, President
Ms. Linda Collins, Member
Ms. Jacquese White, Member
Ms. Crystal O'Brien, Member (Acting Secretary)

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:
Mr. Robert Farag, Vice President
Ms. McKenya Dilworth Smith, Secretary
Mrs. Marlinda Tyson-Haymon, Member

OTHERS PRESENT:
Diana Morrow, Director
Ms. Maoris Green, CPA
Ms. Pamela May, Technology Supervisor
Ms. Merri Roddy, Executive Assistant
Ms. Kelly White, Attorney (Zoom)

The Meeting of the Board of Trustees for the Gary Public Library was called to order at 5:06 p.m. on Monday, May 18, 2026, by Board President Dr. Lucille Washington. Dr. Washington asked for a roll call. At the time of roll call results: (4) board members were present.

ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA

Ms. White asked to amend the New Business portion of the agenda to table the vote on the proposed permanent branch hours for a special board meeting. Seconded by Ms. Collins. Dr. Washington asked for a motion to accept the amended agenda. She asked for discussions. There was none. Dr. Washington called for a vote. Roll call: Ms. Collins, Ms. O'Brien, Dr. Washington. Motion passed (4) to (0).

CERTIFICATION OF EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Secretary certifies for the record that the Executive Session held prior to this meeting was held pursuant to Indiana Code 5-14-1.5-6.1. Agenda, Executive Session of the Board of Library Trustees of the Gary Public Library IC 5-14-1.5-6.1(b)(5). To receive information about and interview prospective employees. IC 5-14-1.5-6.1 (6) (B) Collective Bargaining. We certify that only items discussed during the Executive Session were items enumerated in Indiana Code 5-14-1.5-6.1.The Board certifies that the public was duly notified pursuant to Indiana Code 5-14-1.5-5. (Public Notice of Meetings) and that no final decisions were made during the Executive Session. Dr. Washington asked for a motion to approve the Executive Session. Ms. Collin made a motion. Seconded by Ms. White. Dr. Washington called for a vote. Roll call: Ms. Collins, Ms. White, Ms. O'Brien, Dr. Washington. Motion passed (4) to (0).

APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES

Approval of Regular Board Minutes April 27, 2026

Dr. Washington asked for a motion to accept the Board Minutes from March 23, 2026. Mr. Farag made a motion to accept the minutes. Seconded by Ms. Collins. She asked for discussions. There were none. Dr. Washington called for a vote. Roll call: Ms. Collins, Ms. White, Ms. O'Brien, Dr. Washington. Motion passed (4) to (0).

NEW BUSINESS

Election of Officers:

Attorney Kelly White conducted the election of Gary Public Library's Board of Trustee officers. Atty. White asked for nominations for President. Ms. O'Brien nominated Ms. White for President. Atty. White asked for any other nominations. There were none. She asked Ms. White if she would accept the nomination. Ms. White accepted it. Atty. White stated that since there were no other nominations the board can elect Ms. White by 'Aye' consent. She asked for any Aye's all the present trustees said 'Aye' she asked for No's, there were none. Unanimous vote to be President (4) to (0).

Atty. White asked for nominations for Vice-President. Ms. Collins nominated Ms. O'Brien for Vice-President. Atty. White asked for any other nominations. There were none. She asked Ms. O'Brien if she would accept the nomination. Ms. O'Brien accepted it. Atty White asked for any Aye's all the present trustees said 'Aye' she asked for No's, there were none. Unanimous vote to be Vice-President (4) to (0).

Atty. White asked for nominations for Secretary. Dr. Washington nominated Ms. Collins for Secretary. Atty. White asked for any other nominations. There were none. She asked Ms. Collins if she would accept the nomination. Ms. Collins accepted it. Atty White asked for any Aye's all the present trustees said 'Aye' she asked for No's, there were none. Unanimous vote to be Secretary (4) to (0).

Atty. White asked for nominations for Treasurer. Ms. O'Brien nominated Dr. Washington for Treasurer. Atty. White asked for any other nominations. There were none. She asked Dr. Washington if she would accept the nomination. Dr. Washington accepted it. Atty White asked for any Aye's all the present trustees said 'Aye' she asked for No's, there were none. Unanimous vote to be Treasurer (4) to (0).

Committee Reports

Buildings and Grounds Committee: Ms. White stated that they had a good meeting. They left off getting the RFPs for the HVAC system upgrades. Also, discussion of the renovations of the Kennedy Branch. Mr. Jackson stated he is waiting on quotes from the companies for the air conditioning. Technology: Ms. O'Brien stated that in her committee meeting they discussed E-Rates that is in process. Ms. May stated that she provided the trustees with E-Rate information in their board packages. Ms. O'Brien also updated the board on the Tech-Mobil and that the summer schedule is in progress.

BUDGET & FINANCE

Ms. Green requested approval from the Board to accept the recommendation to approve agenda items 1 – 4 of the Budget and Finance Agenda. Line item 5 is informational:

1) Payroll Expense – Actual for April 2026: $ 151,970.42

   Including:

   Out of Class Pay –April 3 2026: $ 17.80

   Overtime –April 3, 2026: $ 340.01

   Out of Class Pay –April 17, 2026: $ 49.77

   Overtime –April 17, 2026: $ 0.00

2) Payroll Expense – Estimate for June 2026:	$ 160,599.26
3) Unpaid Claims – May 8, 2026:	$ 11,203.55
4) Pre-Paid Accounts Payable Expenses –March 20, 2026 -April 21, 2026:	$ 104,265.59
5) Cash on Hand as of April 30, 2026	$4,802,264.55

Monthly Interest: $ 13,642.48
Annual Interest: $ 57,747.28

Ms. Green asked the board to approve the report. Dr. Washington asked the board for a motion to approve the Budget and Finance Agenda. It was moved by Ms. Collin and seconded by Ms. White to accept the Budget and Finance agenda. Dr. Washington called for a vote. Roll call: Ms. Collins, Ms. O'Brien, Ms. White, Dr. Washington. Motion passed (4) to (0).

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

Mr. Jackson gave his report during the committee report

PERSONNEL

Promotion
Heather Ares, Reference Librarian, to Woodson Branch Manager, Annual Salary $54,176.85 , Effective: May 25, 2026.

Resignation
Daniel Weinberg, Cataloger/Librarian (PT), Technical Services, Effective: April 29, 2026.

INFORMATIONAL

Director's Report

Monthly Management Reports

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A member from the Rose Garden Club spoke to the board about their upcoming event held at the Woodson Branch on June 2nd and 6th.

Mrs. Toyin Akinbobuyi, asked the board when will the 5% cost of living raises will be released.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:42 p.m.

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VICE PRESIDENT: ______________________________
Mr. Robert Farag

SECRETARY: ______________________________
Ms. McKenya Dilworth Smith

MEMBER: ______________________________
Ms. Linda Collins

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