

DEARBORN PUBLIC LIBRARY
LIBRARY COMMISSION MEETING
Henry Ford Centennial Library - Room 111
Wednesday, July 8, 2026
Proposed

Commissioners:

- Chairperson Dr. Cheryl Hawkins - Excused
- Vice Chair Ali Dagher - Present
- Secretary/Treasurer Jihan Jawad - Present
- Adam Abusalah - Present
- Amira Haidar - Present
- Dr. Ryan Lazar - Present

Library Administration:

- Library Director Patty Podzikowski - Present
- Assistant Director of Technical Services Mark Hancock - Present
- Assistant Director of Programs & Services Rebecca Hermen - Present
- Office Assistant III Daniel Smith - Present

Historical Museum:

- Historical Advisory Commission Chair Kayne Karnbach - Present

Legal Department:

- Assistant Corporation Counsel Amanda Atwy - Present

I. Call to Order

Vice Chair Dagher called the meeting to order at 5:05PM

II. Public Comment

Dearborn resident Kathryn Takach spoke to commission on dated information on the Library website, regarding the branch building projects, and also noted the meeting agenda was not posted in a timely manner. Vice Chair Dagher thanked her, and urged the administration to clear up the issues on the website.

III. Conflict of Interest Disclosure

No conflicts of interest disclosed.

IV. Approval of Minutes - June 10, 2026 regular meeting

A motion to approve was made by Commissioner Haidar, supported by Secretary/Treasurer Jawad. Minutes approved as submitted.

V. Approval of Agenda

Meeting agenda accepted.

VI. Consent Agenda

A. Historical Museum Report

Historical Advisory Chair Karnbach reported record attendance at the annual Teddy Bear Picnic.

B. Library Director's Report

Consent agenda accepted.

VII. Financial Report

Director Podzikowski reported that staff are closing out the 2026 fiscal year, and the 2027 fiscal year began on July 1.

VIII. Old Business

A. Bryant and Esper Renovations Update

Director Podzikowski reported that the asbestos abatement process was completed quickly. Bryant Library's materials are currently in storage, and Esper's have been either absorbed into HFCL's collection, or sold. Demolition at Esper is scheduled to begin on July 13. She added that the mayor is providing an update on CDTV.

IX. Additional Comments

Vice Chair Dagher inquired about how many part-time Library staff were incorporated into other City departments after being laid off. Assistant Corporation Counsel Atwy said she would send an update to the Library Commission.

X. Next Meeting - September 9, 2026

XI. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by Secretary/Treasurer Jawad, supported by Commissioner Haidar. The meeting adjourned at 5:17PM.