Monroeville Public Library Board Meeting Minutes

September 28, 2026
Meeting held in-person with virtual option
Called to order at 7:03 p.m.

Members present

- Meredith, Kelly (President, Ward 7)
- Lucas, Cindy (Vice-President, Ward 2)
- Crane, Michael (Secretary/Treasurer and Immediate Past President, Ward 1)
- Manners, Katherine (Ward 5)
- Markosek, Joe (Ward 3)
- Toney, Phillip (Ward 6)
- Non-voting
    - Henline, Nicole (Library Director)
    - Bodziock, Pam (Assistant Director)
    - English, Dave (ACLA Representative)
    - Snyder, Carol (Friends of the Monroeville Public Library)

Agenda

- Thanks, Good News, and Kudos
    - Henline earned a Certificate of Merit from the PA Library Association.
    - The Children's Deaprtment also received two awards that will be awarded in October.
- Pubic Comment
    - No comments.
- Friends of Monroeville Public Library
    - Congratulations to Henline on her Certificate of Merit
    - Amy and Mike made the little free library for the Municipal Park, which has been installed on the trail near the gazebo. The Friends are buying 10 copies of the bookwalk book each month and stocking them in the library. They have also purchased 10 copies of *Wings of Steel*, whose author recently spoke at the library. So far the books have been very popular and the little free library, as well as the book walk have been getting rave reviews.
    - Congratulations on the fall book sale and many thanks for letting the Friends have a table.

- Thanks to Bodziock for updating the ticket sale for trivia, with an assist from, and thanks to, Freker.
- Trivia night tickets will be going on sale soon, first to previous teams. General public sales open October 5. The trivia is Saturday, October 17. Will check on being able to move the computer table to make some more space.
- National Friends of Libraries Week is November 18-24. Henline approved a 'make a friend with a new book' station: books will be wrapped in plain paper with the first line written on them to encourage reading new books.
- October 28 is the Max and Erma's fundraiser.
- The Sarris Candy fundraiser will be open online until December 13.
- We are close to 1000 followers on Facebook and hoping to cross that milestone soon.
- The Friends are looking for specific financial projects to help support the library, if there is a directed need in the future.

- Consent Agenda
  - Minutes - August 2026
  - Finances - August 2026
  - Book Nook and Concession - August 2026
  - Statistics - July 2026
  - Statistics - August 2026

    Motion to approve Consent Agenda.
    Motion made by Lucas
    Seconded by Manners
    No discussion.
    Approved with unanimous vote.

- Director's Report
  - To support the draft budget, a narrative has been put together, which compares MPL against other ACLA and PA libraries. Some highlights include: while our staffing costs are comparable with other similar-sized libraries in the state, our municipal budget has remained unchanged since 2013 in terms of percentage allocated; we have the second-most attended teen-after school program in the county, second only to the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh; our staffing has been greatly reduced due to the municipal budget when looking at both full-time-equivalent staff and headcount.

- ACLA Report
    - RAD held its funding request hearings at the end of August, and ACLA will be working on messaging and education with the RAD board. Questions came up about the structure of ACLA, and why ACLA could not direct programing, as well as some questions about Sunday hours. Do not think their questions will affect this year's funding. CLP asked for a 10% increase, due to facing an operational deficit; ACLA's request is 3%.
    - Began conversations about new funding pools for other needs (Transformative Communities Grant, through RAD, which funds upgrades and opportunities). RAD seems open to another pool of funds open to all ACLA libraries, not just those in distressed communities.
    - Working with the McHewn Foundation to create a financial plan for grants to ACLA as their foundation sunsets.
    - Congratulations to Henline for her recent Certificate of Merit, it is well deserved.
    - Amy Anderson, CEO of ACLA, will join the PA Library Association Board next year.
    - If you have not reached out to your federal legislators about ERate, please do so, have until October 13.
- New Business
    - No new business.
- Old Business
    - Draft of 2027 municipal budget is included, we have asked for an increase in building maintenance and repair, as well as increase in contract services for HVAC.
    - The fund budget is similar to last year. There is an increase to programs for the Maker Space.
    - Did get numbers back from the engineers and will cost $400,000 to fix the wall in the children's department, which cannot wait until the Keystone Grant process.
    - Planning to celebrate the Maker Lab reopening as a holiday open house.
    - Thanks to everyone who helped with all the fundraisers. Fun Fest brought in about $10,000 in sponsorships and raffles after expenses, and had more sponsors and community partners than ever before.
    - Committees

1. Fund Development

    a) As of 9/28, Love Your Library has brought in $11,597 physical donations (handed or mailed) and $3,800 in online donations. There are still some envelopes to go through and overall the drive is going very, very well.

    b) The Fall Book Sale went really well and was the best we've ever had. Brought in $3,600 in two days. So far, the Book Nook, with the two sales and yearly sales, brought in $14,600 this year

Motion to adjourn made by Lucas
Seconded by Markosesk
No discussion
Approved with unanimous vote.

Meeting adjourned at 7:53 p.m.

Upcoming events

- October 17 - Friends Trivia Night
- October 22 - Municipal budget hearing, 6:30 p.m.
- October 28 - Max and Erma's fundraiser
- October 29 - Municipal budget hearing, 6:30 p.m.
- Through December 13 - Sarris Candy fundraiser remains open

Action items

- All - Please reach out to Federal Representative and Senators to ask them to vote in favor of keeping the E-rate as it is.

Next scheduled Board meeting is Monday, October 26 at 7 p.m.