ALBERT WISNER PUBLIC LIBRARY

Board of Trustees Annual Re-Organization Meeting

July 28, 2026 at 6:30 PM

Minutes

PRESENT: Board Members: Regina Wittosch, Nora Aman-Gurvich, Colleen Larsen, Barbara Johansen, Michael McCann and Mary Berrigan

Director: Lisa Laico

Rec. Secretary: Siobhan O'Riordan

Absent: Mark Damia

I. Meeting called to order by Nora Aman-Gurvich at 6:30 pm

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Trustee Swearing-In/Oath of Office: Michael McCann (July 2026-June 2031)

IV. Public Comment: None

V. Election of Officers for FY 2026/2027:

A) President (also ex-officio on AWPL Foundation Board) – Nora Aman-Gurvich

B) Vice President – Colleen Larsen

C) Financial Officer – Regina Wittosch

D) Secretary – Mary Berrigan

Motion to accept Board positions for FY 2026/2027:

Colleen Larsen made a motion to accept the Board positions. Mary Berrigan seconded the motion. The Board voted as follows: Nora Aman-Gurvich – Yes; Regina Wittosch – Yes; Colleen Larsen – Yes; Mary Berrigan – Yes; Barbara Johansen – Yes; Michael McCann – Yes. The motion was approved.

VI. Committee Assignments

As Board President, Nora Aman-Gurvich is an ex-officio member of all committees. Lisa Laico sits on all Board committees as Library Director.

A) **Buildings and Grounds**: Chair-Barbara Johansen; Regina Wittosch and Mary Berrigan

B) **Financial**: Chair-Regina Wittosch; Michael McCann

C) **Personnel**: Chair-Colleen Larsen; Mary Berrigan

D) **Community Relations**: Barbara Johansen

<u>Motion to accept Committee positions for FY 26/27</u>:

Colleen Larsen made a motion to accept the above Committee positions; Mary Berrigan seconded the motion. The Board voted as follows: Nora Aman-Gurvich – Yes; Regina Wittosch – Yes; Colleen Larsen – Yes; Mary Berrigan –Yes; Barbara Johansen – Yes; Michael McCann – Yes. The motion was approved.

VII. <u>Motion to approve the following appointments</u>:

Regina Wittosch made a motion to approve the following appointments; Barbara Johansen seconded the motion:

A) To appoint J. Benjamin Gailey, J&G Law, LLP, as Attorney of Record
B) To appoint Nugent and Haeussler as Independent Auditor
C) To appoint Joy Palazzola as Treasurer and Bookkeeper
D) To appoint BPS Financial Services as Employee Benefits Firm
E) To appoint James Cha of Ameriprise Financial as Investment Advisor
F) To appoint Siobhan O'Riordan as Recording Secretary

The Board voted as follows: Nora Aman-Gurvich – Yes; Regina Wittosch – Yes; Colleen Larsen – Yes; Mary Berrigan – Yes; Barbara Johansen – Yes; Michael McCann – Yes. Motion was approved.

VIII. Establish Monthly Meeting Dates and Times:

<u>Motion to establish the fourth Tuesday of each month at 6:30 pm as date/time of the regularly-scheduled monthly Board meeting with exceptions for the November and December meetings to be held on the third Tuesday:</u>

Michael McCann made a motion to approve; Barbara Johansen seconded the motion. The Board voted as follows: Nora Aman-Gurvich – Yes; Regina Wittosch – Yes; Colleen Larsen – Yes; Mary Berrigan – Yes; Barbara Johansen – Yes; Michael McCann – Yes. Motion was approved.

IX. Library Board By-Laws: reviewed.

X. New Business:

A. Review and reaffirm procedures governing Public Comment at Board meetings:

Reviewed and reaffirmed.

B. Conflict of Interest Policy

<u>Motion to reapprove Conflict of Interest Policy</u>:

Mary Berrigan made a motion to approve the Conflict of Interest Policy; Regina Wittosch seconded the motion. The Board voted as follows: The Board voted as follows: Nora Aman-Gurvich – Yes; Regina

Wittosch – Yes; Colleen Larsen – Yes; Mary Berrigan – Yes; Barbara Johansen – Yes; Michael McCann – Yes. Motion was approved.

Affirmation and Disclosure Statements submitted by Trustees: signed and submitted by Trustees.

C. Investment Policy:

<u>Motion to reapprove Investment Policy</u>

Michael McCann made a motion to reapprove the Investment Policy; Regina Wittosch seconded the motion. The Board voted as follows: The Board voted as follows: Nora Aman-Gurvich – Yes; Regina Wittosch – Yes; Colleen Larsen – Yes; Mary Berrigan – Yes; Barbara Johansen – Yes; Michael McCann – Yes. Motion was approved.

D. <u>Motion to approve Resolution to override 2% tax cap for FY 2027/2028 Budget:</u>

Whereas, the adoption of the FY 2027/2028 budget for Albert Wisner Public Library may require a tax levy increase that exceeds the tax cap imposed by state law as outlined in General Municipal Law Section 3-c adopted in 2011; and

Whereas, General Municipal Law Section 3-c expressly permits the Library Board to override the tax levy limit by a resolution approved by a vote of sixty percent of qualified board members; now therefore be it

Resolved, that on July 28, 2026, the Board of Trustees of Albert Wisner Public Library voted and approved to exceed the tax levy limit for FY 2027/2028 by at least the sixty percent of the Board of Trustees required by state law.

Michael McCann made a motion to approve a Resolution to override the 2% tax cap; Barbara Johansen seconded the motion. The Board voted as follows: Nora Aman-Gurvich – Yes; Regina Wittosch – Yes; Colleen Larsen – Yes; Mary Berrigan – Yes; Barbara Johansen – Yes; Michael McCann – Yes. Motion was approved.

XII. Dates & Times for next meeting:

A. Regular Meeting of the Board – Tuesday, July 28, 2026 at the Library immediately following annual Reorganization Meeting.

B. Regular Meeting of the Board - Tuesday, August 25, 2026 at 6:30pm at the Library.

XIII. Adjournment:

<u>A motion to adjourn the Annual Reorganization Board Meeting</u> at 7:08pm was made by Mary Berrigan; the motion was seconded by Barbara Johansen. The Board voted as follows: Nora Aman-Gurvich – Yes; Regina

Wittosch – Yes; Colleen Larsen – Yes; Mary Berrigan – Yes; Barbara Johansen – Yes; Michael McCann. Motion was approved.

Motions:

1. To accept FY 26/27 Board positions.

2. To accept FY 26/27 Committee positions.

3. To appoint the following:

   -J. Benjamin Gailey of J&G Law, LLP as Attorney of Record
   -Nugent and Haeussler as Independent Auditor
   -Joy Palazzola as Treasurer and Bookkeeper
   -BPS Financial Services as Employee Benefits Firm
   -James Cha as Investment Advisor
   -Siobhan O'Riordan as Recording Secretary

4. The establish the fourth Tuesday of each month at 6:30pm as date/time of regular Board meetings with exceptions for November and December meetings to be held on the third Tuesday.

5. To reapprove Conflict of Interest Affirmation and Disclosure Statement.

7. To reapprove the Library's Investment Policy.

4. To approve a Resolution to override the 2% tax cap for FY 2027/2028.

5. To adjourn the Annual Reorganization Meeting at 7:08pm.

Recorded by Siobhan O'Riordan on July 28, 2026 and submitted on July 30, 2026.