Eden Library Board of Trustees
July 13, 2026

Library board president Pat Smith called the meeting to order at 5:15 p.m. In attendance were Paula Blandino, Linda Meyer, Bettyann Neifer, Jon Wilcox, and Library Director Donna-Jo Webster. We were also joined by John Craik, our liaison with the B&ECPL System Board.

The minutes of the June 8, 2026 were read. A motion was made by Jon and seconded by Paula to approve the minutes as presented. This was passed.

Director's Report

In reviewing the monthly statistics, the director noted that she was surprised by the amount generated by sending faxes for patrons and that the library still does so many of these given other options that are available to individuals to use.

The University Express program concerning the new smart electric meters had a good sign up but the presenter never showed up. Despite this, participants talked among themselves and shared information about their experiences with these new meters. The University Express coordinator was notified of the presenter's absence.

In general, the numbers were up for the month in most categories and there has been good attendance at programs.

The following bills were presented for payment:

- Haier's Fire Extinguishers……. $110 (fire extinguisher inspection)
- Eden/North Collins Pennysaver…….$104
- Freddy Frog's Foam Party……$375
- Rob Dumo (caricature artist program)……$400
- Gui's--- $26.98; $30.44; $99.99 (for gritty tape)……$157.41

There was discussion concerning the items purchased from Gui's. These were primarily to repair the bench on the parking lot side of the building, but we believe that we are getting a bench from the Town to replace it. The gritty tape to treat the basement step was also in discussion as it was thought there might be a better solution. It was unknown whether or not Tony had opened any of these items. The Gui's bill was tabled pending return of various items. A motion was made by Jon and seconded by Paula to authorize payment of all bills with the exception of Gui's. This was passed.

The director also reported on balances in the Local Revenue Account.

The Foam Party had a big attendance and the kids loved it. The Friends group paid for the ice cream that was given out. Diane Franz and her husband picked up the freezer and ice cream from Haier's and brought it to the library. That day's Door Count was 322, Circulation was 230 and eight new library cards were issued.

It was noted that there was a small amount of water in the basement after the foam party but nothing like last year's leakage. The repair seems to have worked pretty well, but the Town will be notified.

We have received an estimate from Brockman Brothers to repair the library sign. They provided two estimates: one to do a repair to the two ends where most of the damage is at a cost of $1000. A second proposal would be to replace all of the brick work and add weeps that will allow water to drain out; the cost for this would be $2500. After brief discussion, Jon made a motion to choose the second option and have the sign completely rebuilt. Bettyann seconded this motion and it was passed. Jon will get in touch with Brockman Brothers and let them know our decision. (A copy of the estimate is included with these minutes.)

Pat has been in touch with John Craik and asked him to address the issue of liability if we were to start a Library of Things. John responded that individuals would sign a waiver before borrowing certain items and that the borrower assumes the risk. He also noted that, at libraries that loan out "things," no one has sued. He was asked if individuals on the board could be sued and was quite certain that board members are covered by the central library's liability insurance, but will check and let us know. (On July 20 Mr. Craik sent Director Webster an e-mail stating that board members are covered by the Library System's Director and Officer Liability Insurance coverage.)

Discussion concerning a Library of Things continued with various topics coming up. It was noted that all items would have to be looked at when returned to make sure they are in good repair. The question was raised as to whether this is something that we are interested in actually pursuing, where items would be stored, what the demand would be and more.

Treasurer's Report

Bettyann reported on balances in all accounts at Key Bank and also at Woodlawn Federal Credit Union.

Old Business

The list of repairs requested from the Town has been completed.

The Five Year Plan of Service was tabled until the next meeting. Board members should read through it and make additions or other changes.

New Business

We have received our 2026 contract with the B&ECPL. The secretary read a Resolution of approval for library services for 2026. A motion was made by Jon and seconded by Paula to accept this contract. The board vote was 5 ayes/ 0 noes. A copy of this resolution is attached to these minutes.

The 35th anniversary of operating in this building will be on September15, 2026. Donna-Jo will put something together to commemorate this event. She also noted that she celebrated her 10th year with the Eden Library on July 11, 2026.

Dates for the fall Book Sale were set for Oct. 14 to 17, 2026.

There will be no meeting in August. The next meeting will be held on September 14.

Meeting adjourned at 6:30.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Meyer, Secretary