Indian River Area Library
Board of Trustees Meeting
July 21, 2026
3:30 p.m.
Tuscarora Township Hall

I. Pledge

II. Call to Order and Roll Call
Call to order at 3:35 p.m.
Present: Kris Olson, Helen Miller, Greg Rotter, Sherry Brzezinski, Kristina Moutrie
Guest: Kim Nichols

III. Public Comment on Agenda Items
Corrections needed to the Agenda numbering. There are two # IX, will renumber to IX.A, and IX.B, also change Adjourn to # XII. Greg added Vice Chair to IX.A, letter D.

IV. Approval of Agenda
Helen moved to approve the agenda as amended. Kristina seconded. All in favor.

V. Approval of Minutes
June 16, 2026 Regular Board Meeting: Correction needed in line item VII, change years of employment for Lorretta from 15 to 8. Kris moved to approve minutes as amended. Helen seconded. No discussion. All in favor.
June 22, 2026 Special Board Minutes: Helen moved to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting. Kristina seconded. Helen asked for clarification of line item IV. A. it was explained that Todd's will return any monies received if permits are not granted. All in favor.

VI. Financial Report
A. 20 bills presented for a total of $6298.65. Expenses included cleaning service, repairs of 2 computers, reimbursement of mileage for Kelsey, window cleaning, Tumble renewal,and Demco. Helen moved to approve expenses as presented. Kristina seconded. No discussion. All in favor.
B. Investments continue to do well. We did receive the Community Foundation deposit for this quarter. Rachel continues to work on balancing the donor and agency accounts. Helen shared that she recently did the Trustee 102 training online. The training was "really good', "lots of information that was heavy on finances". She learned that we should have a gift policy and a FOL policy. Kelsey thinks that we have both policies, but will check to make sure. Kelsey shared with board members that trustee training can be done through the Niche

Academy, she can help those interested to get set up.

VII. Friends of the Library Report

A. FOL reports that the spring fundraiser was a great success and made $3400.

B. FOL is working with the Mah Jong group to set up a tournament to be held Aug. 25th from 1-4 p.m. Will need a few volunteers to help.

C. The FOL and Kelsey have asked to sell an outdoor tent that has been deemed too big and cumbersome to use. Kristina moved to sell tent for $100.00. Kris seconded. All in favor.

VIII. Director's Report

A. Circulation numbers are up!

B. The summer reading program is going well and set to end July 25th.

C. The Library received $500 from the Northland Library Cooperative for the summer reading program and Kelsey used some of that money for the cost of prizes.

D. The Library has a new Library Assistant, Imogen Bergin. Welcome Imogen!

E. The building grant has been officially closed out. Kelsey will still need to submit service/building usage numbers through the end of December.

F. Kelsey has registered for the UPRLC conference held in Marquette in September, and has registered for the Thrivelib conference held virtually in August.

G. Kelsey has set up training for the staff that they will complete on a monthly basis. The training will cover themes such as customer service, and managing behaviors in Libraries.

H. Kelsey has brought to the Board's attention that the Parks Department starting wage is $20/hr, while the Library starting wage is $14/hr. She encourages the Board to consider increasing the Library staff wages.

IX.A. Old Business

A. Reading Garden Committee Report

The committee found out that they do not have to go before the Planning Commission to get the permit to start the project. The County has authorized an administrative permit. Todd's is requesting the down payment however the Board Treasurer has been unable to get a check from the Township Treasurer in a timely manner. After discussion the Board decided to use funds from the Reading Garden account that can be accessed directly by the Library Board Treasurer. Helen moved to take $45,000, or the amount to maintain the minimum balance in account, from the IRAL Reading Garden IMMA account with CNB payable to Todd's Landscaping per contract. Kristina seconded. No discussion. All in favor.

B. Policies

Kelsey presented a Public Comment Policy to be reviewed by the Board. Sherry moved to accept the Public Comment Policy with the change to #3 A,

second line to remove the word for. Helen seconded. All in favor.

C. Trustee Position

Kelsey has presented Kim Nichols to be appointed to the IRAL Board of Trustees. The Board has appointed Kim Nichols to fill the IRAL Board Trustee position by roll call vote. Kristina Moutrie - yes, Sherry Brzezinski - yes, Greg Rotter - yes, Kris Olson - yes, Helen Miller - yes. All in favor. Welcome Kim to the IRAL Board!

D. Vice-Chair Position

Helen moved to appoint Kris Olson to the position of Vice-Chair and Kim Nichols as a member at large. Kristina seconded. All in favor.

IX.B. New Business

A. Hoopla E-Resource Alternatives

Kelsey feels that Hoopla is no longer worth the increased cost. Alternatives are Kanopy, Blackstone Unlimited, and Libby extras, optional for additional fees. Information in packet. Kelsey is sold on Kanopy, plans to continue to look into Blackstone and make a final decision, isn't interested in Libby's extras. The plan is to end Hoopla August 31st and start new service in September.

B. Mentor Township Letter

The annual renewal letter for Mentor Township. Kristina moved to authorize letter and for Board President Greg Rotter to sign the letter. Kris seconded. All in favor.

X. Public Comment

None

XI. Board Comment

None

XII. Adjourn

Helen moved to adjourn at 5:22 p.m. Kristina seconded. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,
Sherry Brzezinski, Secretary