Derby Public Library
Board of Director's Meeting
Wednesday March 18, 2026
Minutes

1. Ms. Gleason, President, called the meeting to order at 5:55pm. All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Roll Call: Present - Ms. Gleason, Ms. Doherty, Ms. Barry, Ms Cecarelli, Mr. Foley, Mr. Middendorf, Mr. Lionetti, Ms. Kopchik, Ms. Smertiuk, Library Director. Absent with notice- Ms.Stankye.

3. Ms. Doherty moved to adopt the agenda as written. Ms. Cecarelli seconded and all were in favor.

4. Public Portion was closed.

5. Ms. Kopchik moved to approve the February 18, 2026 minutes as written. Mr. Foley seconded and all were in favor.

6. Old Business - Board members voiced a concern about student use of AI in the essays at last month's meeting. Mr, Foley said he had spoken to DHS Principal Olson about this. Ms. Olson said there are two teachers who check student writings and she would be happy to have them check the essays for us before sending the to the Board, Ms. Cecarelli moved to change the time of our January and February meetings to 1pm. The meetings would still be held on the third Wednesday of the month. Ms. Kopchik seconded and all were in favor. Ms. Smertiuk is also looking into Zoom as a possible alternative approach to some meetings. Ms. Kopchik moved to approve the DPL Community Room Policy with a change on the top of page 3 'Libraries' to 'Library's' and on page 4 #3. 'and' removed after chairs, and , removed after lectern 'and' inserted and lower case 'o' on Other. Mr. Middendorf seconded and all were in favor.

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7. New Business - A big ‘thank you’ to Christine for her work on the April 15th Time Capsule. Programming for April vacation and Summer Reading is being prepared. A seed Library will kick off Earth Day on April 22,2026. Plaques honoring Board Presidents and Head Librarians/Director's are being planned for the 125th Anniversary of the Derby Public Library on December 27, 2027. Ms. Doherty moved to sign the Xerox contract and Mr. Foley seconded and all were in favor. After some discussion, Mr. Foley moved to purchase a new Microfilm machine. Mr. Lionetti seconded and all were in favor. New custodian needed after Allen got a new job. All staff has access to building now that Calvert rekey has been completed. Still checking into what company for HVAC. Looking into getting new windows–big bucks! Looking into a website refresh. Sara Riggs Humphreys DAR has not moved into the storage closet yet but they will have their April 25th meeting in the meeting room at10am. The DHS Honor Society Project will have their first fundraiser for the DNL, DPL and the DHS Libraries on April 6, 2026. The request for our 2026 distribution from the VCF was approved and sent. The Summer Reading Party Cookout and Harcourt's birthday celebration will be on June 22, 2026 at 5 to 7:30 pm. Registration is recommended. Wednesday July 1st at 5pm, DPL celebrates America's 250th. There has been an inquiry about internships from SCSU and some people are wondering about volunteering. DPL Friends will sponsor Flags for Heroes on June 13, 2026. Ms. Cecarelli moved to approve 1 personal and 3 vacation days for Ms. Smertiuk. Ms. Kopchik seconded and all were in favor.

8. Executive Session was not necessary.

9. Mr. Foley moved to adjourn at 7:15pm. Mr. Lionetti seconded and all were in favor.

Minutes are not official until approved at the next meeting.
Respectfully submitted by Ms. Barry, Secretary

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