

Minutes of the Mississippi Valley Library District

Board of Trustees Fundraising Committee Minutes

Date: September 4, 2025

Time: 6:00 PM

Place: Collinsville Memorial Library's Community Room, Collinsville, IL

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Kathy Murphy, acting Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM. Roll call was taken by Kyla Waltermire, Executive Director.

Trustees Present:

Ian J. Ashcraft, Treasurer

Kelly Balaco-Reeder, Vice President

Jeanne Lomax, President

Kathy Murphy, acting Chair

Trustees Absent: none

Also Present:

Kyla Waltermire, Executive Director

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Public Input - None

4. Trustee Comments

Ashcraft mentioned being excited to start with the Fundraising Committee. Murphy said to Ashcraft and Balaco-Reeder "welcome aboard."

5. Unfinished Business - None

6. New Business

a. Appointment of Committee Chair and Minutes Taker

For Committee Chair:

Lomax moved and Ashcraft seconded to appoint Murphy to the position of Fundraising Committee Chair. Murphy accepted the nomination.

A roll call vote was taken:

Ashcraft - yes
Balaco-Reeder - yes
Lomax – yes
Murphy - yes

Yes - 4; No - 0; Abstain - 0; Absent - 0

Motion carried.

For Minutes Taker:

Balaco-Reeder motioned and Lomax seconded to appoint Ashcraft to the position of Minutes Taker. Ashcraft accepted the nomination.

A roll call vote was taken:

Ashcraft - yes
Balaco-Reeder - yes
Lomax – yes
Murphy - yes

Yes - 4; No - 0; Abstain - 0; Absent - 0

Motion carried

b. Review of Completed / Ongoing Fundraisers

Waltermire provided updates on the following fundraisers:

- Clothing drop-off box (to date)
- The Great Puzzle Race
- Yearbook sale (to date)
- Table rentals during the City-Wide Garage Sale
- Legacy planning brochure and where it had been and will be distributed
- Conversations with individual donors

The amounts raised by each fundraiser was included in the meeting packet.

Additionally, Waltermire shared an update received the day of the meeting about the Donald R. Shaffner Trust that the library was included in. The MVLD will receive a little over \$258,000 from the trust. Lomax asked for personal details about Mr. Shaffner, if he has family in the area, etc. and suggested that some of the funds help with children's library renovations based on Waltermire's responses. Lomax recommended a

commemorative plaque. Waltermire shared that the trust has specific language for honoring Mr. and Mrs. Shaffner.

Ashcraft shared that a resident had just mentioned an issue opening the clothing drop-off box. Waltermire will look into this.

Murphy asked questions about the Great Puzzle Race.

c. Upcoming Events & Events Being Planned / Considered

Ashcraft mentioned doing a cornhole (also known as bags) tournament as a fundraiser. Balaco-Reeder also mentioned a possible pickleball tournament.

Waltermire gave an update about trivia night planning. She said the VFW's large hall was being looked at for a March 2026 date. She also reviewed what was in the meeting packet. The Friends of the Library, who are the primary helpers for the trivia night, were looking for assistance with a silent auction to be held during the event. Lomax said that the committee was willing to do that.

Waltermire went on to discuss "swag sales." This would be an ongoing fundraiser. A few new designs, in addition to designs previously made available through All Pro T's, will be offered initially. More designs will be rolled out over time. She is working on selecting an online storefront. Balaco-Reeder mentioned having a swag design contest.

Ashcraft asked about the presence the library has at the Uptown Collinsville events. Waltermire says that the library has been putting a table on the front lawn with freebies and library information.

Waltermire explained the "spring for a book" fundraiser that the Joplin Friends of the Library did, where a person could donate an amount for a single book, a stack of books, or a shelf of books. Book plates would then be placed in purchased items to recognize those who donated. The idea of changing the event to "fall for a book" so that it could be done in upcoming months was discussed.

The "Taste of Collinsville" was mentioned again. Murphy mentioned doing the "Taste of Collinsville" in conjunction with the United States' 250th birthday in 2026. Waltermire said that she would share with the committee the Taste of Collinsville information previously compiled by Murphy.

Waltermire brought up prior discussion about a silent auction to occur concurrently with Tunes at Blum. Balaco-Reeder had done research for a possible raffle. Discussion about 50/50s, Queen of Hearts, quarter raffles, and similar activities occurred. Waltermire said

she would find more information about things that would be considered gambling and what the library could legally do.

Murphy mentioned a “how many books in the cart” type of fundraiser. Balaco-Reeder then suggested a “how many words in a book” guessing fundraiser/activity.

During a Personnel Committee meeting in June 2025, the Board discussed modifying the Fundraising Committee to include community development. The Fundraising Committee discussed this possible revision. Murphy had added to the meeting packet a document about possible community development activities and the upcoming America250 celebration.

Waltermire reviewed the library’s current community development activities, such as providing a community bulletin board, hosting displays, providing space for informational tables at the library, and attending community events.

Ashcraft suggested not changing the name or purpose of the committee at this time because it “muddies” what the committee is and does. Murphy agreed not to change the name or purpose at this time. Waltermire confirmed that the drafted Bylaws change for this committee would not be presented for full Board consideration until this committee was ready for it.

Murphy asked how the Board or the library could thank people. Waltermire mentioned previously held volunteer receptions at the Blum House. Waltermire said that she regularly checks in with and thanks the Friends of the Library, too.

Ashcraft asked to confirm an action plan before the meeting ended. Waltermire reviewed that she would provide the information about “Taste of Collinsville/ taste of the library,” she would get information from the library’s attorney about what kinds of activities are considered gambling or not, and Ashcraft would bring a cornhole tournament proposal to the next meeting.

7. Closed Session – None

8. Adjournment

- a. Lomax made the motion to adjourn and Ashcraft seconded the motion. A voice vote was taken. All were in favor. The meeting adjourned at 7:29 PM.