



SPRINGFIELD TOWNSHIP LIBRARY  
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## **Joint Library/Parks/Township Board Meeting Minutes May 12, 2026**

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Roger Bower, Parks Commission Chair.

Library Board Members Present: Kristy Bower, Ruth Gruber, Sam Marohn, Kathy Rollins, Joan Rusch, and Library Director Kristina Costigan

Library Board Members Absent: Mary Bell

Parks Commission Members Present: Chris Benedict, Roger Bower, Josh Leo, Rich Parke, Jean Vallad, and Director Sarah Richmond

Parks Commission Members Absent: Jason Morgia

Township Board Members Present: Lori Beatty, Township Treasurer Jamie Dubre, Township Clerk Sean Miller, Chris Moore, Kevin Sclesky, Bill Whitley

Township Board Members Absent: Township Supervisor Ric Davis

### **Springfield Township Library Statistics**

Library Director Kristina Costigan shared an infographic on 2025 Library Statistics. She highlighted two areas that show the Library's service to the community have increased in the last year:

- The number of Springfield Township residents who have Library cards has increased from 22% in 2024 to 23.5% in 2025.
- The number of digital items that were borrowed increased to 27,164 which is an increase of 20% from 2024.

A resident asked how old you have to be to get a library card. Kristina said that you only have to be able to write your name. She also encouraged anyone who doesn't already have a library card to visit the library to get one.

### **Parks Update**

Parks Director Sarah Richmond gave an update on the Parks

- Transitioned to new cloud-based registration system this year.
- 11 special events in 2025 which is an increase from 2024. One of the new events was the Tree Lighting event offered jointly with the Township and the Library with over 300 people in attendance.

- Over 40 home-cooked lunches are served every Thursday to seniors at the Hart Center. All who are 50 year
- Parks offered over 90 programs in 2025 with many of those programs having multiple sessions. Some of the most popular programs include:
  - Tai Chi
  - Painting the Bob Ross Way
  - Basketball, Baseball, T-Ball and Softball
  - Pickleball
- Hart Community Center is a popular rental site with an increase from 2024 rentals. The baseball fields are also regularly rented out.
- The Parks Maintenance staff is very busy maintaining 700 acres of parkland in Springfield Township. The staff also finished the northern loop of River Run preserve with additional lengths of mowed and limestone trail.
- A new fishing dock was added on Davis Lake in Hartman Meadows which is well utilized, especially by youth in the community. The bridge at Hartman Meadows is a popular place for photo shoots and Sarah encourages everyone to visit this newer park properties.

### **Natural Resource Program Update**

Parks Director Sarah Richmond gave an update on the Natural Resources programs. The Township has continued our partnership with Michigan Nature Association which has enabled us to us to perform prescribed burns and 32 acres of invasive species treatment and work on insect research. Sarah has also continued partnerships with other organizations to continue studying and protecting the natural resources on our township lands. Prescribed burns and invasive species treatments have continued with the limited resources available in the Parks staff. Sarah is working on expanding the partnership with Oakland County Parks.

### **2026 Phone Use and Charges**

Treasurer Jamie Dubre distributed the phone charges summary for 2025 which shows a slight decrease in the call volume from the Township. Jamie's contention is that the phone charges based on volume will only be updated every other year (post-election year) unless there is a large change that would greatly impact the overall cost. Jamie had discussions with both Sarah and Kristina prior to this meeting to share the phone charges summary. Based on Jamie's recommendation, the phone charges breakdown will remain the same in 2026.

### **Liability Insurance Discussion**

Clerk Sean Miller presented liability insurance information. Jamie and Sean presented an adjusted insurance split worksheet where the percentages for both the Library and Parks has been reduced from what was previously charged. The Township will be reimbursing both entities for the overpayment. There is an addition to the split for public officials and each coverage type is defined at the bottom of the worksheet. The spreadsheet is structured to allow for an automatic updates when new coverage amounts are entered.

Additional discussion was had about the insurance process. This discussion is detailed in the meeting summary.

### **Discussion Regarding Steering Committee**

The Steering Committee was something that was brought up at last year's Library and Township Joint Board Meeting and Kristina had asked that it be added to the agenda. At last year's meeting, it was recommended that the following people be a part of a Steering Committee: Kristina Costigan, Ruth Gruber, Kristy Bower, Ric Davis, Lori Beatty, and the Facilities Manager and IT Administrator as needed.

Additional discussion was had regarding the merits of the committee and who should be assigned to serve. This discussion is detailed in the meeting summary.

It was decided to assign committee members as follows:

Library: Kristina Costigan, Ruth Gruber

Parks: Sarah Richmond, Rich Parke

Township: Lori Beatty, Alex Steward (Facilities Manager)

The meeting date was set for Wednesday, June 10 (second Tuesday of each month) at 9:00am at the Civic Center.

### **Review Cost-Sharing Agreements**

Sean presented Cemetery Cost Sharing Agreement which is not required to be reviewed annually but he wanted to present the agreement as both Parks and the Facilities Manager were present. There were not changes needed. Sarah did state that Parks has been spraying the cemetery for invasives so there will be charges to the Township this year.

Sean commented that Davisburg Cemetery is filling up and expansion will be necessary. Sean had approached Sarah about expanding to the east near the corner towards Dilley Road as they do not want encroach on the ballfields and they want to stay away from areas that flood. The last available section of Andersonville Cemetery has already been platted out which will be closed after this section is occupied.

Sean presented the Civic Center Cost Sharing Agreement as it is required to be reviewed annually by the Township and Library Boards. No changes were requested by either party.

### **Public Comment**

Resident Sue Case thanked the Library as she and her granddaughter visit often and also walks the trails and plays pickleball. She said she loves the Steering Committee idea and thinks it will be helpful to involve all stakeholders. She said just having meetings alone won't solve problems but hopes all members will commit to sharing information as it becomes available.

Business was completed. The meeting was adjourned at 5:52pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kathleen Rollins, Secretary

KFR/kmc