NORTHLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY AUTHORITY
BOARD MEETING – Held in person and virtually, using Microsoft Teams
January 27, 2026, 7:00pm
MINUTES

I. Call to Order & Roll Call: The meeting was called to order by Dana Getz at 7:01 PM. Present: Irene Caliendo, Alan Cech, Dana Getz, Noelle Ivankevich, Casey Sample, Mike Smith, and Varshini Sentilkumar. Excused: Sarah Poweska. Also present: Amy Steele, Bob Lukitsch, Kelley Moten, Nicholas Yon, Alexis McKinley, Gilda Arroyo, Alan Shuckrow, Robert Tate, Nathan Babich, Jack Hickerson, PA State Representative Arvind Venkat, PA State Representative Jeremy Shaffer, Allegheny County District 1 Council Representative Kathleen Madonna-Emmerling, Allegheny County District 2 Council Representative Suzanne Filiaggi, Mark Foerster, Bridget Barrett, and Jennifer Rapach.

II. Comments from the Public: None.

III. President's Report: Dana Getz: Getz discussed the highlights of the past year but encouraged the board to continue to look forward and consider "what's next." Getz acknowledged the considerable contributions to this success by Amy Steele.

IV. Retirement Acknowledgement: Steele will retire from her role as Executive Director on February 12, 2026. The following presented citations/proclamations to Amy Steele for her years of service to Northland and the local community: Rep. Arvind Venkat, Rep. Jeremy Shaffer, Bridget Barrett (Chief of Staff to Rep. Emily Kinkead), Allegheny Council Members Suzanne Filiaggi and Kathleen Madonna-Emmerling. Alan Shuckrow thanked Steele for her tremendous contributions to the library. Steele thanked everyone for their recognition. Steele stated that her accomplishments could not have been achieved without an amazing staff and a board of "doers."

V. Board Reorganization:

i. **Officers - to be run by Solicitor Gilda Arroyo:** Arroyo took over the Chair. In accordance with Robert's Rules of Order, the following officers were nominated and elected.

1. **President (VOTE):** A nomination was made by Dana Getz to elect Mike Smith as President. There were no other nominations. Nominations were closed. Motion to elect Mike Smith to the position of President of the Northland Public Library Authority Board, unanimously carried.
2. **Vice President (VOTE):** A nomination was made by Casey Sample to elect Sarah Poweska as Vice President. There were no other nominations. Nominations were closed. Motion to elect Sarah Poweska to the position of Vice President of the Northland Public Library Authority Board, unanimously carried.

3. **Secretary (VOTE):** A nomination was made by Irene Caliendo to elect Dana Getz as Secretary. There were no other nominations. Nominations were closed. Motion to elect Dana Getz to the position of Secretary of the Northland Public Library Authority Board, unanimously carried.
4. **Treasurer (VOTE):** A nomination was made by Dana Getz to elect Casey Sample as Treasurer. There were no other nominations. Nominations were closed. Motion to elect Casey Sample to the position of Treasurer of the Northland Public Library Authority Board, unanimously carried.

ii. **Committees7**

1. **Building & Grounds –**
    a. **Chair:** Dana Getz
    b. **Board members:** Noelle Ivankevich
    c. **Continuing staff members: Bob Lukitsch, Executive Director, Kim Englert**
    d. **Public Members:** Tom Kosmala
2. **Finance**
    a. **Chair:** Casey Sample
    b. **Board members:** Mike Smith, Alan Cech
    c. **Continuing staff members: Bob Lukitsch, Executive Director, New Staff members: Annemarie Lamperski (Technical Services Manager), Courtney Bonnet (CATS Manager)**
    d. **Municipal Representative – Zachary Filous, Franklin Park**
3. **Governance**
    a. **Chair:** Irene Caliendo
    b. **Board members:** Casey Sample, Mike Smith, Alan Cech
    c. **Continuing staff members: Executive Director, Andrea Georgic.**
4. **Personnel**
    a. **Chair:** Sarah Poweska
    b. **Board Members:** Irene Caliendo
    c. **Continuing staff members: Alexis McKinley, Ellen DiMartini, Rebecca Muñoz, Executive Director. Also includes Sherry Murray, Deputy Solicitor for HR.**
5. **Policy & Planning:**
    a. **Chair:** Dana Getz
    b. **Board Members:** Sarah Poweska, Noelle Ivankevich
    c. **Continuing Staff members: Kelley Moten, Executive Director, New staff members: Raeann MacNeil (CATS Librarian)**

d. **Continuing members of the public: Jack Murtagh. New Public Member: Karrie Lukin**

6. **ACLA Representative for General Membership meetings on Thursday March 26, Tuesday, June 23 (conflict with NPLA Board meeting) and Wednesday, October 28:**
   a. **Representative:** Casey Sample
   b. **Alternate:** Sarah Poweska

(VOTE) To approve slate for all committees plus ACLA representative: Smith took over the Chair. The 2026 Committee participants are listed above. Motion to accept the Committee appointments and the ACLA Representative appointments as made by the President, duly made by Irene Caliendo and unanimously carried.

VI. New Business:

a. **ADA Restroom update and contract (VOTE) – Amy Steele, Bob Lukitsch:**
   i. **Motion to authorize staff to execute a contract with Clark Contracting via the Keystone Purchasing Network for the ADA restroom on the upper level not to exceed $125,000 and pending solicitor review:** Motion to authorize staff to execute a contract with Clark Contracting via the Keystone Purchasing Network for the ADA restroom on the upper level not to exceed $125,000 and pending solicitor review, duly made by Casey Sample and unanimously carried.

There was an executive session held to discuss a personnel matter.

b. **Interim Executive Director Compensation (VOTE) – Amy Steele, Mike Smith:**
   i. **Motion to set compensation for Kelley Moten as Interim Executive Director at $4,824 per pay period:** Motion to set compensation for Kelley Moten as Interim Executive Director at $4,824 per pay period, duly made by Ms. Sample and unanimously carried.
c. **Jack Buncher Foundation Grant (VOTE) – Amy Steele:**
   i. **Motion to temporarily restrict the $5,000 Jack Buncher Foundation End of Year Grant for CATS signage and Adult Services Furniture:** Motion to temporarily restrict the $5,000 Jack Buncher Foundation End of Year Grant for CATS signage and Adult Services Furniture, duly made by Irene Caliendo and unanimously carried.
d. **Preapproved Vendors list update (VOTE) – Bob Lukitsch:** Motion to accept the Preapproved Vendors list, duly made by Casey Sample and unanimously carried.

VII. New Northland - Entrance/Staircase Project Update: Amy Steele/Bob Lukitsch: Steele highlighted the ribbon cutting, open house, and great public response to the renovation. Some issues with drainage in the parking lot that will

be addressed in the spring. Safety issue with the interior stair railing that is being addressed with architects. Waiting on credit for the mezzanine carpet.

a. **Grants – update:** Aside from the Keystone Grant, all grant reports have been completed.
b. **Landscaping:** On hold until spring.

VIII. Communications:

a. **Library Marketing & Communications – Nicholas Yon:** Reported the great success of the New Northland opening events. There were 73 attendees at the Ribbon Cutting. There was a line out the door for the Open House for Commonplace Coffee's special promotion. New Northland, and Commonplace at Northland, had extensive media coverage in the *Tribune Review*, WPXI, *Pittsburgh Business Times*, *Pittsburgh Post Gazette*, and *The Uproar*, the student newspaper of North Allegheny Senior High School. Yon acknowledged the cost challenge of increased demand for printed handouts and newsletters due to the New Northland's increased traffic.
b. **Departmental Updates – Kelley Moten:** A 2025 statistic report will be presented next month. Staff are exploring and adjusting to the new spaces.
c. **Foundation – Alexis McKinley, Robert Tate:** Second annual Holiday Gifts Fundraiser raised approximately $4,000. The Year-End Appeal raised about the same amount as last year. The Wish Tree had its best year yet, raising approximately $4,500. Garden Gala 2026: Phantom of the Library tickets go on sale February 1.
d. **Junior Board Member Report – Varshini Senthilkumar:** Senthilkumar spoke on the increase in the Book Nook traffic since the New Northland opened.
e. **Other – Marshall Township:** Marshall Township is generously donating their excess RAD funding – a little over $3,000 – to Northland.

IX. Board Education:

a. **Sunshine Act review – Amy Steele:** Steele reviewed key components of the Sunshine Act including topics such as the "open meetings law," the public nature of the minutes, executive sessions, and printed posting requirements.

X. Unfinished Business: None.

XI. Legal Matters: None.

XII. Consent Agenda (VOTE):

a. **Minutes**
    i. **December 9, 2025 Meeting**
b. **Treasurer's Report**
c. **Executive Director's Report**

Motion to approve the consent agenda, duly made by Casey Sample and carried, 5 votes in favor and 2 abstentions (Cech, Ivankevich).

XIII. Committee and Other Reports:

i. **Executive Search Ad Hoc Committee:** Getz reviewed the process thus far and noted that the three finalists will be interviewed in person on February 3. Cech asked a few questions about the process.

XIV. Board Comments: Smith thanked Steele for her contributions to Northland including the many improvements that she made for staff over the years and her incredible knowledge of her position. In honor of Steele's last board meeting before her retirement, Moten presented her with a "Certificate of Retirement" in recognition of her years of service and many accomplishments, signed by all five of our municipalities' leaders. Northland's snow plower's truck malfunctioned during the snowstorm. Steele thanked McCandless Township Sanitary Authority (MTSA) for their assistance plowing the lot and thanked Commonplace Coffee for their connections in finding a snow plow replacement.

XV. Comments from the Public: None.

XVI. Adjournment: Motion to adjourn duly made by Irene Caliendo and unanimously carried. The meeting adjourned at 9:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Dana Getz
Secretary