



**FULTON
COUNTY**
LIBRARY
SYSTEM

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

MEETING
INFORMATION PACKET

FEBRUARY 25, 2026



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FULTON COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
FEBRUARY 25, 2026



**FULTON COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
FEBRUARY 25, 2026 - 4:00 P.M.
AGENDA**

- I. Call to Order
- II. Public Comments
- III. Adoption of Agenda* Doc. #26-07
- IV. Approval of Minutes - January 28, 2026* Doc. #26-06
- V. Chairman's Report
- VI. Work Orders Report - Paul Kaplan
- VII. Director's Reports Doc. #26-10
 - Library Services and Trends
 - Monthly Financial Report Doc. #26-08
 - Monthly Usage Summary Doc. #26-09
 - FCLS Look Ahead Events/Programs
- VIII. Unfinished Business
 - A. Central Library - Update
 - B. Rental Policy - Discussion
 - C. AFPL Foundation M.O.U. - Update
- IX. New Business
 - A.
- X. Adjournment

*Action is anticipated on this item

Doc. #26-06



**FULTON
COUNTY
LIBRARY
SYSTEM**

FULTON COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

JANUARY 28, 2026 - 4:00 P.M.



Members Present: Bolster, Paul
Franklin, Candice
Joyner, D. Chip
Jordan, Linda
Kaplan, Paul, via Zoom
Radakovich, Nina - Chair
Rice, Beverly - Vice Chair

Members Absent: Piontek, Joe

Also In Attendance: Holloman, Gayle H. - Executive Director
Clary, Audrey - Assistant to the Director's Office
Claxton, Zenobia - Assistant to the Director's Office

Guests: Hall, Hirshel, Assistant County Attorney
Willis, Michelle, Foundation Vice Chair

Webinar Attendees: 2

Board Chair Nina Radakovich called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

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CALL TO ORDER

CHAIR NINA RADAKOVICH: Good afternoon. This is the meeting of the Fulton County Library System Board of Trustees. My name is Nina Radakovich, I'm the Chair, and I'm calling the meeting to order. Do we have any public comments?

PUBLIC COMMENTS

MRS. ZENOBIA CLAXTON: Good afternoon. We do not have any public comments today.

26-02 ADOPTION OF AGENDA**MOTION**

CHAIR NINA RADAKOVICH: We need to adopt the agenda. Do I hear a motion?

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: So moved.

MS. BEVERLY RICE: Second.

CHAIR NINA RADAKOVICH: All in favor?

TRUSTEES: Aye.

CHAIR NINA RADAKOVICH: Thank you.

26-01 APPROVAL OF MINUTES - DECEMBER 17, 2025**MOTION**

CHAIR NINA RADAKOVICH: We need to approve the minutes also from the December 17th meeting.

MR. D. CHIP JOYNER: Motion to approve the minutes of December 17, 2025, meeting.

MS. BEVERLY RICE: Second.

CHAIR NINA RADAKOVICH: All in favor?

TRUSTEES: Aye.

CHAIR NINA RADAKOVICH: Thank you. The minutes are adopted. We don't have a Chairman's report today. We have Mr. Kaplan on Zoom ready to do the work orders report.

WORK ORDERS REPORT - PAUL KAPLAN

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: Okay. Well, the first thing I want to do is give a shout out to Joe Davis and his group of workers for the DREAM team. During that very cold weather we had, they did a great job. They monitored their libraries almost every hour throughout the night to make sure that we didn't have any problems with the frozen pipes like we had several years ago. I thank them for that, for doing something like that. We've had no damage, as far as I know at this point. But they did a great job. Also, thanks to the Library Board and their staff. I think that with the little education like we've done in the last couple years, it's really helped a lot. If we make it through the next cold weather, which I think is coming this weekend, I'd say we're doing great, maybe we're over the hump. But I thank them for what they've done. They do a good job. As far as work orders are concerned, well, December was very slow, and that's a good thing. We had a -- only had 144 work orders. They completed 127, close to 90 percent was completed during the month of December. We had the same thing as, again, HVAC, and plumbing, electrical, miscellaneous, and so on. Nothing outstanding that I know of, or that at least nobody called me about it. But I think everything worked very well. I'll ask our Director, unless she's heard something, but I think everything went very well this last month of December, and hopefully January will follow.

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: Yes.

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: Anybody --

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: Things did go very well.

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: Anybody have any questions, or Director, you have anything to say about anything at all as far as these shutdowns?

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: Yes. Things went extremely well through December. We were very happy with the very thing that you talked about, about how well DREAM did in getting ahead of it. The buildings get a little bit hotter than we're used to sometimes, but during this time of the year, we're grateful for it, because it does help the plumbing and all those things, and it has made all the difference. So we're very pleased with that. The Dogwood Library did have a shutdown due to the heating problems, but we reopened it on Friday, I think it was, right, it was Friday, and it's been fine since.

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: It's been a good month. Anybody have any questions at all?

TRUSTEES: (No responses.)

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: No? Okay, that's the end of my report.

CHAIR NINA RADAKOVICH: Thank you, Paul. Now, we have the Executive Director's Report.

26-05 DIRECTOR'S REPORTS

LIBRARY SERVICES AND TRENDS

26-03 MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT

26-04 MONTHLY USAGE SUMMARY

LIBRARY CLOSURE REPORT - 4th QUARTER

FCLS LOOK AHEAD

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: Well, good afternoon everyone. It's good to see you, and Happy New Year.

MS. BEVERLY RICE: Good afternoon.

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: We're very excited about 2026. We think we ended up very well with 20 -- in 2025. We've done a great job, and staff's very excited about the things that are coming up. Before I get into all of that though, does anyone have any questions about our end-of-the-year spending? We -- we ended up with about \$240,000 that was in the last column here for budget balance, but of course that would get taken out of our funding for salaries and benefits. It always ends up carrying over. So it looks like -- it looks a little different than as ends up being. But that money will be spent. Any questions about that?

TRUSTEES: (No responses.)

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: Our monthly usage report is the next category, and we are still right where we were before we ended the December 2025, and that is with concerns about teen services, teens coming into our libraries and using them. So, we're working hard to gather more ideas and actual implementation of programming for that age group. I think you'll be pleased with some of the things we're planning on doing this New Year. Also, we did have something new that cropped up, where we seemed to not have as many visitors to our websites. But we're working on that end of it as well. The monthly usage summary, that's what I just got through talking about. The library closure report, we did have to close some in the year, and very few things though in December, so we're very pleased to have ended the year without the problems we could have had. As I said earlier, it would have been very different, has been very different when we have not had this attention that DREAM has given so wholeheartedly to making sure that they remind managers to turn on the faucets and things of that nature, let them drip and all

that, and that made the difference so that plumbing will not fail and burst, that type of thing. Looking ahead, we are very, very excited looking ahead. You may have heard, but I'm going to let you know, we're embarking on a theme for 2026 for the entire year, and you have it in your packet. It is called The Year of the Book. We think that it's wonderful marketing, it's just such a -- done such an excellent job of capturing the idea that we brought forward. I'm just blown away by how well they were able to capture it. So you've got the gist of it here. It's going to be where on all levels for all ages, we're going to have activities galore. We're going to have programs galore, books and other materials, and of course, keeping in mind all of our online resources, lots of programming, though, lots of author visits, lots of things like that. We're introducing our new mascots, Dewey and Deci. You know the Dewey Decimal System? Well, we're doing a play on that.

MS. BEVERLY RICE: Okay.

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: So Dewey is our wonderful dog, and Deci is our little cat. So, we're very excited that we're going to be influencing what we do and carrying us through the year with all sorts of programming, all sorts of things that we think people will find exciting. So that's going to be really a good year I think. Along with that, we'll have our signature program, the Summer Reading Program. We'll also have our One Book, One Read, which I'll talk about in a few moments. Any questions or any of that right now? Well, should I go on? Unfinished Business.

MS. LINDA JORDAN: I have a question.

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: I'm sorry. Yes.

MS. LINDA JORDAN: I have a question. I'm sorry, I'm little late. But I wanted to ask about with FIFA coming here soon, are the libraries incorporated into any of that, as far as --

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: We are. We're going -- we're working, or will be working with External Affairs and the programming around what they're doing, so that's what we're waiting on. That was a little talk about it, not -- not full direction yet, but about two weeks ago. And so we're getting in on that as well. So we're going to be a part of everything that we can be a part of so that the word is out, the name is out, and of course, we have the backing of the Foundation in most of these things.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

CENTRAL LIBRARY - UPDATE

RENTAL POLICY - DISCUSSION

MS. LINDA JORDAN: Right. Ms. Franklin is here, and good to see her. But she could take some of this information back, because I know the city's heavily involved. Actually, I volunteered to be a FIFA volunteer.

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: Okay.

MS. LINDA JORDAN: So we have people from all around the world coming, so I wanted to be a part of that experience. But just knowing that whatever we can do with the libraries, she can take the information back and see what, you know, the city has to offer as well. Am I right, Candice?

MS. CANDICE FRANKLIN: Absolutely.

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: Well, we would appreciate it very much. We don't know what direction exactly they're taking or what they're going to require of us, but we'll be right in the mix of the meetings and whatever planning they're doing. We're --

MS. CANDICE FRANKLIN: Yes, well, we are in the Clean Zone, so.

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: -- excited about it. I'm sorry?

MS. CANDICE FRANKLIN: They call it the Clean Zone. So this library fits right in the zone where --

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: Okay.

MS. CANDICE FRANKLIN: -- FIFA will take over. So it will probably affect you all in regards to traffic, definitely.

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: Okay.

MS. CANDICE FRANKLIN: Because they will block this whole --

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: Oh, wow.

MS. CANDICE FRANKLIN: Perimeter out, so there'll be credentialing and stuff. So that's just something we should --

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: Oh, I hadn't thought of all of that.

MS. CANDICE FRANKLIN: -- probably pay attention to.

MS. LINDA JORDAN: Right. Then on top of that, too, they have a Fan Zone that I don't know how, like --

MS. CANDICE FRANKLIN: It's at Centennial Park.

MS. LINDA JORDAN: Right.

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: Okay.

MS. LINDA JORDAN: It's Centennial Park, so we need to kind of think about all that. We have, like, a hundred and -- I was on a Zoom call yesterday about FIFA. So like, 140 days out until FIFA comes to the ATL, something like that.

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: Right.

MS. LINDA JORDAN: So just keep that in mind, but I --

MS. CANDICE FRANKLIN: I can get information back to you.

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: Okay. Thank you. That's great. Well, we're excited about FIFA, we're excited about all of these things, and we think it's a perfect -- plus, we will be participating in doing things around America 250, 250th Anniversary of the United States. Is he able to hear us?

MS. LINDA JORDAN: Paul, can you hear?

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: I sure can?

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: Okay.

MS. LINDA JORDAN: Does he have anything to say?

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: No, not right now.

MS. LINDA JORDAN: All right.

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: Anyway, so we're very excited about all of that. Then that brings us to the Central Library.

MR. PAUL BOLSTER: How did we come -- do you have a plan to report on the budget, on how the county supported the libraries? What was the budget for us? Did it change at all, or were there any --

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: It changed to about \$200,000 more.

MR. PAUL BOLSTER: That was for what purpose, or?

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: Well, it's just part of the whole budget. We divide it out as we can see fit, but we -- we didn't get more than that, any much more than that.

MR. PAUL BOLSTER: So what's --

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: So we're still at about \$32,000, 33,000 -- million, I'm sorry.

MR. PAUL BOLSTER: None of the special requests were granted?

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: No.

MR. PAUL BOLSTER: All right.

MR. D. CHIP JOYNER: Was there any additional funds for like the midterm elections or anything like that?

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: I don't know that they did with the midterm elections. I don't recall what was said on that. I go in and out on some of those meetings because people interrupt me. So I didn't get to -- I didn't get to see all and hear all of that. But I do know that we did not get -- we needed additional funding particularly for our e-resources. So have had to cut, again, Hoopla from five to -- went from ten to five, and now from five to two. We've had a couple people who've called to complain about that, but so far, not many. But we already made the -- back in November, we'd made the Commission aware that that was a possibility.

MR. D. CHIP JOYNER: Director Holloman, just with the election, what kind of impact does it have on your manpower? We're expecting a probably big election this year.

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: Every time there's a Presidential or a -- election, this year is the --

MS. BEVERLY RICE: Midterm.

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: It's the midterms, and the midterms and the Presidential elections create a lot more traffic. You know, we're asked to serve as voting sites. So, the libraries know what they are, and we just go along with it. We don't -- normally, we don't do a lot, but sometimes we have been asked to actually have people to work the polls, so right now, that conversation has not started. But any day it could.

MR. D. CHIP JOYNER: Do their -- do the team members incur overtime or anything like that usually?

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: They are given some compensation. Different years, different types of approaches are taken.

MR. D. CHIP JOYNER: But that consideration was put into the budget, I imagine.

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: It's not put into our budget, it's just that overall budget that I guess Election and Registration have. But it's not pushed in our budget.

MR. PAUL BOLSTER: The elections don't necessarily interfere with the operation of the library, though, because the library stays open, except it's a special place where the election is taken place.

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: Right. It stays open. Those things take place in the meeting rooms. However, it depends upon how you look at it, parking can be affected. It also means that you have more people standing in the line, of course, could, depending upon how the line wraps around the library, sometimes that has been caused for pause, and we have to address those things. But we work very, very closely with the poll managers, and then they do a lot of preliminary, coming out and having meetings to discuss what they're going to do and how they're going to do it. So, so far, we've been working quite well with Registration and Elections, and they do try to get ahead of what's going on as much as possible, or what's supposed to --

MR. PAUL BOLSTER: My polling place, where my church has a poll at Trinity United Methodist up on Capitol Hill, and we're going to be under construction this next year, so

we aren't going to be able to be a poll. So it may be an opportunity for the Central Library to be a polling place.

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: Could be.

MS. LINDA JORDAN: But my question is on the timing of when all that is supposed to happen, and then when all these other activities are supposed to happen. So we need to figure out the answers, like the voting and whatnot, and then FIFA coming, and then making sure that the, you know, the libraries or whatever we're supposed to do, be open for, like, the voting. But with FIFA, we're expecting, like, 500,000 people coming to the ATL, so --

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: Right, exactly.

MS. LINDA JORDAN: -- I'm just trying to make sure that we -- I don't know what the county's position is right now, as far as -- I know the city, they're at, you know, amping up on police and emergency, all that kind of stuff. So I'm just curious about, like, we need to keep that in mind from a library perspective.

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: We will. The County Manager is very much involved in all of that, along with the Chairman. I'm sure that through Dr. Roshell, we'll be given directions as to what to do. They've mentioned it, as I said, in bits and pieces, but nothing has been firmed up or shared with us right now as to exactly what they expect from us. But I'm sure there will be something, because we're usually involved in most things.

MS. LINDA JORDAN: Okay, thank you.

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: So we'll let you know. Any other questions about any of those things? But please be excited, excited for us for The Year of the Book. I think you're going to find it very interesting. Now, talking about the Central Library, Central has been doing extremely well, and we've got some upcoming programming that I think you're going to find very interesting. On February 11th, we're going to have Kenan Thompson from Saturday Night Live, who is going to be here with his children's book called Unfunny Bunny, about a bunny who decides to tell jokes but then falls flat. So we'll see how that goes. We're excited to have him. We'll pass this around on February 13th, we're going to be hearing from, and she will be on site here, Deborah Roberts from AB -- is it ABC? ABC News is going to be talking about her book, Sisters Loved and Treasured. So, we're looking forward to her being with us at 5:00 p.m. on February 13th, that's a Friday, and it's going to be very interesting. I think she's written been some other books, but this one, she's coming here to see us, and we hope that we can fill up the auditorium. Rose Scott from WABE Radio will be our moderator. The big announcement of the day is that our 2026 One Book, One Read author has been secured. His name is Jason -- let me see if I can say his name correctly. Jason Rekulak, and he wrote a book called The Last One at the Wedding. I don't know if you read that or not.

MS. BEVERLY RICE: You can spell his last name for us?

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: Yes. It's Jason, and then the last name is R-e-k-u-l-a-k.

MS. BEVERLY RICE: Okay.

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: R-e-k-u-l-a-k. It's a book about a father who's just a common man, who has a daughter who he's been estranged from over the years. She, after all these years, finally calls him one day and says, "I'm getting married, I want you to come to the wedding. She's marrying into this real, real fancy family who has a lot of money. So it's a thriller, it's a mystery, and lots of things happen from that point. It was very, very -- I just loved the pacing of the book was so good. I finished it during the time

we were out Sunday and Monday, and I just couldn't put it down. It was amazing. He's an amazing writer, and we're very excited to have him. So I hope that you will enjoy it. He wrote the book, Hidden Pictures. I don't know if you've read that before, but he wrote that book as well.

MS. BEVERLY RICE: Do you have the date for him?

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: He's coming on September 19th at 11:00 a.m. here at the Central Library.

MS. CANDICE FRANKLIN: What was the name of the book?

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: The book is The Last One at the Wedding.

CHAIR NINA RADAKOVICH: If we could all speak up a little bit. The court reporter is having trouble hearing us.

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: Okay. The Last One at the Wedding by Jason Rekulak, R-e-k-u-l-a-k. But anyway, he is a New York Times bestseller, he is up for the Edgar Award, he's a finalist for that, and he wrote the book Hidden Pictures and the Impossible Fortress. So anyway, very excited to be able to announce all that. Let's see what else here. Thank you. Any questions about anything at this moment? We do not have an update yet on the rental policy. It is still in discussion. I did speak to the head of DREAM a few -- a week or so ago, still planning to go forward with the process. The process, again, is that they would take it before the Board of Commissioners to get the approval. We've worked on it for a number of years now, and we think it's ready to go. It will include the Central Library's event center spaces, the Auditorium at the Auburn Avenue Research Library, the Auditorium here at -- on the lower level in Central, and the Auditorium at the Alpharetta Library. So those will be the library spaces that would be included. The reason being is they want to tie all of the facilities that the county owns together so that we're not competing with each other and the prices and what have you.

MS. LINDA JORDAN: I do have a question, Madam Chair, regarding AI and courses. And a lot of entities are now and that's where we're going with AIs, it's like the internet, how we went there. A lot of entities are giving, like, free courses on AI. I'm just wondering, is there something that the library can do to offer free courses on AI, like basic stuff, prompting, this, that, and the other? Maybe I missed that before getting here, I'm just wondering what we can do to help our citizens become more familiar with AI, because that's where we're going.

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: Well, we're looking into all of that for our training components. We did start out with our Staff Development Day in October, where we had an actual class for our staff on AI. We actually had a gentleman who spoke, our main speaker talked about his book, which he wrote on A -- about AI, I think we gave y'all --

MS. LINDA JORDAN: Yes.

MS. BEVERLY RICE: Yes, we have a copy.

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: So we're taking that information and the fact that they had that training, or that introduction, we'll call it, to where we could take it to patrons. So we're looking into it right now to do something with that as well during this year. This year will be part training with regard to those who want to get their GED, those who get their -- a high school diploma and ties into things like training AI, all sorts training parts of this. We're going to be hyping up everything that we offer. So we just want to make everything -- take everything to a heightened pace, and AI, we know, is definitely on the -- on the move.

MR. PAUL BOLSTER: The surprising thing in that book was he said that the strategy of education that we've been used in the country to memorize certain things was no longer relevant when it comes to AI, because the AI's the computer can call up all those facts we want faster than our brains can call them up. So it challenges what's the point of education then, and it's the point to how to get, I think it said how to get organized, how to get motivated, how to -- I'm not sure exactly what his point was of what the future education system looks like, but it's a big challenge for what they teachers should be doing and I guess what the library should be doing.

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: Well, we still know that within the library, that kind of goes with the whole idea of where we tell people not and teachers telling people not to use Wikipedia. You have to still know the resources to use. You know, every -- because it's out there doesn't mean it's good.

MS. BEVERLY RICE: Right.

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: So, you've got to have resources that are reputable that you can fall back on from people who have that insight and proven knowledge. So those -- there's still a place for education, and there's still a place for libraries. I think that we have to make sure we get people to understand that better, so that's going to be on us to do more training around those things.

MS. BEVERLY RICE: AI is very clear in letting you know that all of the information may not be factual.

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: That's true.

MS. BEVERLY RICE: So they never give you anything without letting you this is not the end-all.

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: Right.

MR. PAUL BOLSTER: Yes, so it's a huge issue because I did some research on AI for a potential book in the future, and -- and queried this thing, and it gave me all these answers. But it didn't say where it got the information from. So that's actually useless for a historian to get information that somehow comes from no source.

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: Right.

MR. PAUL BOLSTER: The challenge always is to say what the source is of the information you've got for, and it wasn't giving me any of the sources.

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: Right.

MS. LINDA JORDAN: But as more and more, as AI is trained more and more, those sources, you're going to know those sources. Like, for teachers, they use NotebookLM, right, in courses I've taken. So the information, as they're trained, they're going to get more of the information to know where to get what you just said, I mean, it's amazing how, you know, you got Claude, you got Gemini, you got all of that. So these students -- like, one teacher, I was on a call the other day, and she was like, her son using Notebook -- she's an educator, NotebookLM, and then she uses it also to help with her coursework. So you're right, you have to check the sources. But the more they're trained, the more they're going to know about what information they need to pull. I'm not an expert on it, but I'm trying to become an expert on it. So I'm just saying that it's a big deal. One thing I brought up, I was at a conference, a Venture Capital Conference the other day, and we talked about these data centers that they put in all the neighborhoods and whatnot, and they're claiming they're going to hire folks, and you know, but you got to train these people to know what they need to -- you know what I'm saying? You are putting a data center,

especially in a lot of the minority neighborhoods, but you not training us, training everybody on how to use stuff. So that was my concern, that's why I brought it up. The bottom line is that AI is like the internet when we thought was whatever-whatever. Now, it's everybody using it, AI is going to be what everybody's going to be using. So what can we do as a library, you know, to say, hey, we have courses, they have a lot of free books and all that to make sure that our constituents have access to that information, because they're trying to make everybody level. Does that make sense?

MS. CANDICE FRANKLIN: Yes.

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: Yes. Well, we got a challenge. But we've got -- we have to --

MR. PAUL BOLSTER: I think --

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: -- to be concerned about discernment and being able to rationalize things. You know, that's what I fear the children are not going to get, is they're not going to be able to understand differences, and make comparisons, and make decisions based on the information, because just as you just said, Mr. Bolster, you don't know where it came from. I -- maybe they'll straighten that part out, though, as we go forward. They'll get -- it'll get better, like -- like you're saying.

MS. LINDA JORDAN: But the book that you guys get, A -- the A Generation, they're saying, they're not going to know anything other than AI.

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: That's probably true.

MS. LINDA JORDAN: I was like, really? So --

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: Little children are using.

MR. PAUL BOLSTER: That's what that book said that you --

MS. LINDA JORDAN: Yes, that's what -- I read it.

MR. PAUL BOLSTER: Maybe this is a chance for us to team up with the senior centers, because I'm barely literate on the previous changes in electronic communications and the cellphone and all that, barely literate already. Now, we have a whole new generation. So maybe some emphasis with senior centers that the library has had relationships with would be helpful, because I don't think those centers can maybe do it on their own, maybe a chance to reach out to those locations.

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: Well, we have Senior Services in this building now, that administrative team, and we've worked through the years with them on various things and through the years, when new technologies came out, we actually had programs and classes for them that we either went to them and presented, or they came to us for. So we will continue those things, and I'm always in touch with Director of that department. She's very exciting and very excited to do whatever we can for seniors. So we will be doing that as well.

MR. PAUL BOLSTER: Well, I just think this AI thing is a bigger challenge for seniors, because some of us are going to be, do we have to learn a whole bunch of new stuff? Can't we just get along with what we already know? I mean, it's going to be a big challenge for seniors, because they have to go through another generation of learning when they thought they were sort of done with that.

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: I think it's going to be a challenge for us in some ways. But I also look at it as, depending upon your level of need, it will depend upon probably how you use it. You know, I don't know that my mother would need to do all that I might need to do, or all that my little great nieces would need to do with it. So I think it's really

going to play itself out to where the greatest needs are, or the fewer needs may be. That's kind of what I see right now. I don't know where it'll lead from here, but that's kind of the way it looks.

MS. BEVERLY RICE: For the most part, too, AI, you don't have to do a whole lot, because all you have to do is tell AI to do it. Hey, AI, this is what I need. I want you to change my resume to read so-and-so and so-and-so. So a lot of what we see with AI is just you telling it what to do. So, once you tell it what to do, it's going to put it in, it's your -- it's going to be up to you to go in and put in certain information. But for the most part, because I use AI often for websites for, you know, practically everything I do, I just tell them, you know, go ChatGPT, and just tell them what I want.

MS. LINDA JORDAN: But back to Paul's point, though, is that you have somebody elderly, like, 70s or 80s, and they don't know -- they wouldn't even know where to start. So that's -- I agree with that point about trying to teach the seniors about how you can, you know, use it.

MS. BEVERLY RICE: Right.

MS. LINDA JORDAN: I agree with what you're saying, but I agree with also what he's saying with like, well, if they at ground zero, they wouldn't know what to do.

MS. BEVERLY RICE: Well, I'm 70, I'm not going to tell nobody else that, but --

MS. LINDA JORDAN: My mama's 88.

MS. CANDICE FRANKLIN: You can't tell.

MS. BEVERLY RICE: I do understand.

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: Well, we do offer, we always offer classes for all ages. We offer classes for seniors. We have actually worked with Senior Services with their laptops, where our librarians and other staff went over to the centers and sat with seniors and showed them how to use their phones, how to use their iPads, and various things. So this is work that we've done, we just have to continue and perhaps increase it.

MS. LINDA JORDAN: Exactly.

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: Yes. Any other questions on any of those things?

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: No, just I'll make a comment. I listened to everybody talk, but I'm telling you, the shortage that we have right now with tradesmen, we're losing tradesmen. Without them, we won't be building anything. This is becoming very critical. If you're not going to college, go into the trades. They need plumbers, they need electricians, they need mechanical people. All the stuff gets put together, somebody who's the tradesman puts this stuff together, and we're having a problem getting the younger people to get into it. I don't know where it's going to be. But it's a shortage across the United States.

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: That's right.

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: It's just something that -- what we did in Chicago, what I did in Chicago, I had a big complex, we were doing homes and condominiums, and I hired the gang that ran that area. It was on the west side of Chicago, very tough neighborhood. We split them up, and they worked alongside tradesmen, and we turned a lot of them away from the gang and into the trades. That's something we did, that's something I did, never did it after that, but that was it. But there's ways of getting people infused into it.

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: Right.

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: So I just want to throw that out there. I hear about AI, but AI can't come to your house and fix a sink. You can't do that, you have to call somebody for a

tradesman, you don't get air conditioning or heating. Any of that stuff, we need people to get into it. But I just want to throw that out on the table.

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: That's so true.

MS. LINDA JORDAN: That's a good point.

MR. PAUL BOLSTER: The other thing about AI, I've had recently has some -- a lot of experience with doctors, and they're all going to bots. So I have to be able to communicate with this bot in order to get healthcare that I need. So there could be a basic course in all of the tricks and -- and sort of barriers that are not being set up because you can't get through all those things.

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: Right.

MR. PAUL BOLSTER: You know, and manage to keep all your passwords, so I mean, the passwords just drive me nuts. So I, you know, anyway, those are all problems.

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: We've been investigating some and looking into this whole telemedicine thing. So that might be a way to get started in that.

MR. PAUL BOLSTER: Well, it's just -- it's just the simple things of calling up your doctor --

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: Right.

MR. PAUL BOLSTER: -- your primary care, whoever it is, and saying, you know, here's -- I'd like an appointment, and then you're talking to some -- and calling the pharmacy. The pharmacy won't let you talk to the --

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: Same thing.

MR. PAUL BOLSTER: -- pharmacist unless you say over and over again, pharmacist, otherwise you're talking to the damn bot that Kroger put together. So, I mean, some strategies like how to adapt to this use of AI that sort of maybe become barriers for us, especially for seniors. Healthcare seems to be a huge area where I think, I mean, I got - - I think I got four physicians that I'm in, four different systems where they're going to record my information --

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: Right.

MR. PAUL BOLSTER: -- drives me crazy.

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: It is crazy.

MS. LINDA JORDAN: Well, Paul -- he's so right, because when I was home recently, my mom, her heater had gone out. So, we were trying to call the vendor and say, can you come out, and all these iterations of. I'm like, I want to speak to somebody, I want to speak to somebody, speak to somebody, because I like to speak to somebody. Then finally, the lady came through. She was trying to do all this stuff over the phone. I'm like, no, my mother's house does not work like that. I need somebody to come here and show her, because she has just got a new TV, and all the other stuff was all messed up. I'm not a guru like that. I said, no. So I had to go through all these iterations. So finally, when the guy came out, you know what he told me? They're not trying to send anybody out.

MR. PAUL BOLSTER: Right.

MS. LINDA JORDAN: That's what he said. He said, because you kept saying, come out, come out, he came all the way from -- my mother lives in Middle Georgia. He had to come all the way from up this way to come down there and fix her TV and all that.

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: Oh, wow.

MS. LINDA JORDAN: He said that because you kept saying, I need some -- and I'm paying you almost \$200 a month to take care of my mother's house. But he let me know that they are not trying to send anybody out. Just, you have to state, you know, because my mother's 80-something years old. If I had not been there, they would have used her, you know what I'm saying? So my point is to you, like, a lot of time, they don't know what to do, and they see somebody elderly that does not understand the system, they can take advantage of that person.

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: That's true. I see it all the time.

MR. PAUL BOLSTER: Well, I don't -- I don't think I am elderly. But I -- but I'm about to.

MS. LINDA JORDAN: I didn't say you were elderly, I said my mother is elderly.

MR. PAUL BOLSTER: I know, but I'm about to turn 82.

MS. LINDA JORDAN: Awesome.

MR. PAUL BOLSTER: Anyway, I can see from a senior's point of view that, you know, there's some real problems with what's happening with how they communicate and how you access whatever services that you're trying to get to. So there's some good strategies that we could be simple, we could simply figure out how to do that.

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: How to do it.

MS. LINDA JORDAN: I agree.

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: Just trying to get a hotel --

MR. PAUL BOLSTER: I mean, I know one thing, if I call my -- get the number for my pharmacy, and I have something, and I know that bots are going to just keep saying pharmacist, pharmacist, pharmacist, and eventually, the bot will let you talk to a pharmacist.

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: Well, it's the same thing with trying to get a hotel room. You know, they put you through the -- you start out thinking you're talking to the local hotel, and then you find out you're talking to the conglomerate, and then they want to send you here, and send you there, and send you back and forth, it's amazing, you know, it's just amazing.

MS. LINDA JORDAN: Patience, don't have it anymore.

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: So I don't know what's happening. But we're trying do with what we can, and that's the purpose of The Year of the Book, it's to heighten everything that we're doing and to find ways that we can better assist people so that their lives can be easier.

MR. PAUL BOLSTER: So on the healthcare issue, I hate to push this too much, but on that, maybe somebody from the healthcare industry that's out there ought to come and be explaining this stuff to people. Because I think that they're hiding behind their computers too, and whoever's making all these control decisions should be actually in front of us, telling us why they're doing it and how we manage to live with it.

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: Yes, that --

MR. PAUL BOLSTER: I mean, they're obviously doing it because it's basic greed on their part, that's my opinion. They don't have to hire anybody to do anything, so they hire a computer to do all that work for them. But somebody from the health industry ought to be explaining that to us.

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: Well, we do have a Board of Health, the county does, and so we have partnered with them, and we can explore that. They have loved to come

and be with us on various projects and what have you. So that might be another way of going toward it.

MR. PAUL BOLSTER: Yes.

AFPL FOUNDATION M.O.U. - UPDATE

CHAIR NINA RADAKOVICH: Okay. I think we've just raised more issues than we thought. But we'll just have to get to that when we get to it. I'd like to say a few words about there's progress of the MOU, and then I'll turn it over to Michelle. I know we've gotten in this rut with the MOU, the Memorandum of Understanding that we have with the Foundation, and we need to move on it. So we have a path to go forward. We had referred this to the County Attorney for information. Hirshel responded, he made it very clear that the law says that an agreement such as this must be signed by the Bureau of Commissioners, I mean, Board of Commissioners, not by us. So what we're going to do is go over the draft, the Executive Director and I will do that, and follow the normal process for getting a contract approved in the county, which is, it's going to go through the administrative authority of the county, make its way to the County Manager, and then the County Manager will be able to explain it to the Commissioners. So we're going to do that, which is the more traditional route and we've been doing. We've been kind of letting it go back and forth among different people, and we're going to follow the normal process of the chain of command. We are in that process, this board is. So we will get a chance to look at it and make a recommendation. But we're going to try to minimize changes from now on to it. There's an issue concerning the percentage of money raised and what percentage goes to library programs. So that's been something that was hard to express. We're going to try to find the right words for that, so that something can go in there but nothing that would be harmful to either side. The other sticking point was, there is in -- in MOU, there is provision that gifts may be refused, and that is based on -- is it the Constitution that governs this board? I think it is. But there is a policy that gifts may be refused. I think the Foundation may not like that. But when you think about it, you know, if there was a gift that was totally not useful or even cost prohibitive to maintain or any like that, we would not want to accept that. So we're going to try to keep that in there, or we have to keep that in there or we're in violation of the county's rules --

MR. PAUL BOLSTER: Who decides that?

CHAIR NINA RADAKOVICH: Decides?

MR. PAUL BOLSTER: That we aren't going to accept a gift.

CHAIR NINA RADAKOVICH: That's part of a policy that has to do with all kinds of other gifts, and I can't answer it now.

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: I don't know all of them, but there are some policies and thoughts around it.

CHAIR NINA RADAKOVICH: It would be, I think, the primary decision maker would be our Director, because she's in charge of the Library System. The Library System is one of the two parties to the MOU. So the parties have to agree, and so we're going to work on that. Then when we get it in a good position or state of affairs then we can send it to Richard Anderson and let him take it from there. So Chip, I know you were interested, do you have any questions?

MR. D. CHIP JOYNER: No, I just -- I think you've answered all of them. Thank you so much for that. I just hope that it, the language is responsive to the Commissioners' primary concern, and that's about it.

CHAIR NINA RADAKOVICH: Okay. Well, I look forward to us having it and getting it done. A lot of the ambiguities involved with it and the frustrations are due to the fact that it went from an MOU to a policy, and back to an MOU again. They have distinguishing factors, those two types of documents. You get a mindset in one, and it just really doesn't go with the process you're trying to use. So hopefully, we can get it taken care of, and we can get our lawyer to help if necessary. He's ready for that. With that, I'm going to turn it over to Michelle, who is our Vice Chair of the Foundation.

AFPL FOUNDATION - MICHELLE WILLIS, VICE CHAIR - UPDATE

MS. MICHELLE WILLIS: Thank you, Madam Chair. Hello, guys, how are you? Happy New Year.

MS. BEVERLY RICE: Happy New Year.

MS. MICHELLE WILLIS: I'm glad you addressed that, because I thought that that question might come up, and the only answer I had was, it's out of our hands there at this point, so thank you for -- thank you for mentioning that. To that end, I did want to kind of follow up. Everyone is aware of the fact that Erin has submitted her resignation and is transitioning out. So, we are in the position right now, we're interviewing new Interim Executive Directors. We are -- I just actually did one yesterday. We're on our final round of interviews. So hopefully, we'll have that sealed up by the top of February, which is actually Friday, isn't it? Is Friday the 1st? Next --

MS. BEVERLY RICE: Monday. Monday.

MS. LINDA JORDAN: Can you repeat who Erin -- Erin?

MS. MICHELLE WILLIS: Erin Dreiling, who was our Exec -- I mean, yes, Executive Director of the Foundation.

MS. LINDA JORDAN: Okay.

MS. MICHELLE WILLIS: Yes. She used to come in sometimes. Kind of short, ponytail.

MS. LINDA JORDAN: Oh, yes, yes.

MS. MICHELLE WILLIS: Yes, yes. So we're entering -- we're interviewing now, and we should have somebody sealed up during the next couple of weeks. That is going to be a part-time position. So with that, I think some -- we're going to have to kind of figure out changes in communication and stuff like that, right, and maybe try to put some stuff in place to make it easy as -- as easy as possible so communication can remain very fluid and not too much, you know, because there's just not as much time, isn't a lot. Also, she's going to have an on-boarding challenge, right? She's going to be training, and so a lot of things are going to be happening at once. So we're going to -- we are, Jeff and I, are kind of trying to step in. So if you guys have any questions, whoever we get new is probably not going to be able to answer them. So Jeff and I would, or it could just be me, since I'm kind of your one point of contact anyway. So just kind of want to give you guys an update on that. But it's good, this is all good, it's just change, right?

CHAIR NINA RADAKOVICH: What is your phone number?

MS. MICHELLE WILLIS: My phone number. You're ready? Everybody can't get this, so --

MRS. ZENOBIA CLAXTON: Okay, before you do that, you're online, so you -- may not want to do that.

MS. MICHELLE WILLIS: Oh, yes, that's right.

CHAIR NINA RADAKOVICH: Later, I'm sorry.

MS. MICHELLE WILLIS: Yes, why don't I text it. I'll email it to your text. Thank you. I always -- I have to remember when we're on --

CHAIR NINA RADAKOVICH: That was close.

MS. MICHELLE WILLIS: That was close. I do not want that smoke.

MS. LINDA JORDAN: Madam Chair, may I ask a question, though? Back to the lawyer and whatnot. Do we know the timing of when this might -- this MOU might be back on the Board of Commissioners schedule?

MR. HIRSHEL HALL: I think to the point of the Chair that there -- there is like a process of how something gets on the agenda. I -- that's -- I don't know about that, exactly how long it takes. I'm not personally involved.

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: Well, normally, I am personally involved in it. But it's just a matter of when it's ready. Whenever the document is ready, Dr -- Judge or Dr. Roshell says it's ready, then we will go through that -- we have a process. I have someone I have to send it to, they have to send it through, then it goes to Legal to be reviewed. After it's reviewed in Legal, Dr. Roshell has to see it, then the County Manager has to see it, then the County Manager has to decide if he wants to take it to the Commissioners, and if he does, then it'll get on the agenda. Then sometimes he gets on the agenda, it gets pushed to the next agenda. So that's how it works.

MS. LINDA JORDAN: The only reason I asked is because it's almost February. The elections are coming up in May, so I was just trying to figure out, can we do something now. Would that erase whatever we've done. I'm just thinking out loud, so that's all.

CHAIR NINA RADAKOVICH: The answer is, it depends. It could be really soon, and it could take forever. It could be never, which is the worst case.

MS. LINDA JORDAN: Okay. So at least we're doing our part as fiduciaries to do what we need to do. So, okay, thank you.

MS. MICHELLE WILLIS: Yes, and I think that that's the thing too, even, kind of last thing we started was, let's pick the ball up and get this thing moving in again, and have an intentional focus on making this happen. So, we are seeing some movement, which is great, little farther along than we were.

MS. LINDA JORDAN: Yes.

MS. MICHELLE WILLIS: Right? So, but let's hopefully, never as the --

CHAIR NINA RADAKOVICH: We know with the --

MS. MICHELLE WILLIS: -- hopefully never, ever happen.

CHAIR NINA RADAKOVICH: We know what the differences are, and we're going to focus on those. We have in mind some ideas.

MS. LINDA JORDAN: Right. Thank you.

MR. HIRSHEL HALL: To clarify that point, and to Gayle's point, once an item is on the agenda, at some point in the process, there's a list of approvers, and it could get to the Legal Department as well. But as far as initiating it and driving the train, that's -- I couldn't speak to that, so.

MS. LINDA JORDAN: Thank you.

MR. HIRSHEL HALL: Just wanted to clarify.

MS. BEVERLY RICE: Michelle, one of the things we had talked about last year was building a relationship between the Board and the Foundation. I would like to see us kind of do that, so we can at least get to know, you know, who we're working with. You know, perhaps we could do -- I think we talked about two last year.

MS. MICHELLE WILLIS: Yes, that's my next thing up. You are in my phone, on my agenda.

MS. BEVERLY RICE: Go with it.

MS. MICHELLE WILLIS: Yes. Yes, because that was a follow-up. We were supposed to have a joint meeting at some point. So, what we are proposing, and if you guys have calendars now, if you want to check, our Board Retreat is actually March 24th from 1:00 to 5:00. What we'd like to do is invite the Board of Trustees or whoever wants to come in, and we can maybe carve some time at that point and have a joint meeting during our retreat. We think that's great, but we'd still get it in the first quarter, so still at the beginning of the year. Then, from that point on, we can -- at that meeting, I think, would be a great time for us to decide how we move forward in collaborative meetings, if it's once a year, if it's -- if it's once a year, then we do the social, if it's twice a year, what that looks like. So that would be our kind of first step in that. Does that answer your question? Does that --

MS. BEVERLY RICE: Yes, it does.

MS. MICHELLE WILLIS: Are you guys open to that? We can send this over, too --

MS. LINDA JORDAN: Yes.

MS. MICHELLE WILLIS: -- and I figure, since I'm here, and I had you all, and --

MS. LINDA JORDAN: Yes.

MS. MICHELLE WILLIS: -- I knew that that was going to be a pressing question. So March 24th from 1:00 to 5:00 if that works for some of you, then what we can do is, let me take it back as we're building out our schedule. And then I'll be able to see, you know, what time, what that looks like, that time frame looks like, if it's at the top or the bottom of the meeting or the middle. Yes, ma'am.

MS. LINDA JORDAN: I thought maybe, maybe have luncheon or -- like, a lunch or something prior to the one, you know, kind of a network kind of thing, and then go in to the meeting, like you said --

MS. CANDICE FRANKLIN: March 24th.

MS. MICHELLE WILLIS: Okay. I will definitely submit that.

MS. BEVERLY RICE: That's a great idea, because normally in the retreat, it's straight business --

MS. LINDA JORDAN: Right.

MS. BEVERLY RICE: -- so this way, we can have some time to fellowship, get to know each other, introduce ourselves, and this kind of thing, and we can get to know each other. That's really good. Thank you, yes.

MS. MICHELLE WILLIS: What did you guys think about the social? I know it's kind of tight quarters.

MS. BEVERLY RICE: I didn't make it.

MS. MICHELLE WILLIS: Yes. But what did you guys think about that? Do you -- is that -- is that something you'd like to do again, maybe for next holiday season, or what --

MS. LINDA JORDAN: Who attended?

MS. MICHELLE WILLIS: -- what didn't you like about it?

MS. LINDA JORDAN: Who attended?

MS. MICHELLE WILLIS: I thought the space was much too small.

MR. PAUL BOLSTER: Yes, it was hard to move easily.

MS. BEVERLY RICE: Yes, yes.

MR. PAUL BOLSTER: You kind of got caught, caught in one corner, and you couldn't find the people in the other side, so --

MS. BEVERLY RICE: Right. Yes, we couldn't really network and move around, and that kind of thing, so --

MS. MICHELLE WILLIS: Didn't foster a lot of real engagement --

MS. BEVERLY RICE: Yes, I liked it better the year before, when we were --

MS. MICHELLE WILLIS: Upstairs --

MS. BEVERLY RICE: Across the street and somewhere, yes. That was much better --

CHAIR NINA RADAKOVICH: The library parking. We could use the library parking.

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: Yes, use the library parking.

MS. BEVERLY RICE: Yes, we could use the library parking, yes.

MS. MICHELLE WILLIS: Okay.

MR. PAUL BOLSTER: It'd be nice --

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: Walk across the street.

MR. PAUL BOLSTER: -- if it was in somebody's home.

MS. MICHELLE WILLIS: Why don't we just come to your house?

MR. PAUL BOLSTER: I like those kinds of things in somebody's house.

MS. MICHELLE WILLIS: Are you inviting us to your house?

MR. PAUL BOLSTER: Well, yes, I'd have to check with my other party.

MS. LINDA JORDAN: Of course.

MR. PAUL BOLSTER: But I think people, seeing people in their setting is helpful, you get the -- it's much more casual and --

MS. CANDICE FRANKLIN: You learn about them.

MS. BEVERLY RICE: Yes.

MS. MICHELLE WILLIS: But yes, we can, we can certainly take that back. I agree, I think the space was a little constrictive, restricting. So but -- but the idea was a good, to your point, about being able to get together and network and move around and learn about each other, so that's good. Okay, all right. So I'll take that back as well, we can kind of build on that. We'll see about the -- your idea for the retreat.

MR. D. CHIP JOYNER: Is that date firm, or is there any flexibility on --

MS. MICHELLE WILLIS: It's firm for -- that's our -- that's actually our retreat, so that's what's on our calendar, and that's what's for our planning. Now, we could do another time, we just thought that it might be, you know, since we have such a -- you know -- more time than normal at a regular meeting, and then it wouldn't necessarily enforce us to, you know, either party to make any -- it's just, it's already there, so we figured --

MS. LINDA JORDAN: Your board would be there.

MS. MICHELLE WILLIS: We could do --

MS. LINDA JORDAN: Your board will be there, too.

MS. MICHELLE WILLIS: Oh, yes, it's our Board Retreat --

MS. BEVERLY RICE: Tuesday.

MS. MICHELLE WILLIS: So yes, so then we'll have, yes. That's what we thought everybody -- we know, theoretically, you know, more people should show up for the Board Retreat, and we should have a good showing.

MS. LINDA JORDAN: Right.

MR. PAUL BOLSTER: So you wouldn't want us there for the whole time.

MS. MICHELLE WILLIS: No, no, no.

MR. PAUL BOLSTER: Okay.

MS. MICHELLE WILLIS: We just figured we would carve out a time to have a collaborative meeting --

MR. PAUL BOLSTER: Yes.

MS. MICHELLE WILLIS: -- with the Board of Trustees, and then we'd have an agenda specifically for us, right, that we could work through, and we could do that collaboratively as well.

MS. LINDA JORDAN: Makes sense.

MS. MICHELLE WILLIS: Does that sound okay?

MS. LINDA JORDAN: Yes.

MS. CANDICE FRANKLIN: Does to --

MS. BEVERLY RICE: On the Tuesday?

MS. CANDICE FRANKLIN: We don't like the Tuesday.

MS. BEVERLY RICE: Yes, I don't like Tuesday, but --

MS. LINDA JORDAN: Yes, just the idea sounds good, just the date --

MS. MICHELLE WILLIS: Yes, that's the -- I'm not exactly sure why I -- I don't think I was part of that -- not that it would -- my input would have changed it. But I'm not exactly sure why it's on that day, and I'm sure that there's a reason, and I probably heard it, I just don't recall.

MS. LINDA JORDAN: But you're saying March, right, so there's --

MS. MICHELLE WILLIS: March 24th.

MS. LINDA JORDAN: -- give us time to adjust our schedules.

MS. MICHELLE WILLIS: Yes, ma'am, March 24th, so a couple months.

MS. LINDA JORDAN: Yes.

MS. BEVERLY RICE: So let me ask you one other thing. So you would use, perhaps, one hour between 1:00 and 5:00 for like get-to-know-you, maybe?

MS. MICHELLE WILLIS: Well, actually, like Linda suggested, maybe if we did do maybe something at lunch, maybe had 12:00 to 1:00 or 12:30 to 1:00, or something like that, where people could come in early. Maybe those who can make it can come in and engage, and then we can go into the meeting, maybe. I -- I'm literally, as we're --

MS. LINDA JORDAN: I like that thought.

MS. MICHELLE WILLIS: -- I'm quickly ruminating on it as we're talking. But that could be an idea, but, yes, that was a thought. At some point during the meeting, to carve out time for us collectively as two boards, to have one meeting for all of us.

MS. BEVERLY RICE: Okay. Because I --

MS. LINDA JORDAN: I like --

MS. BEVERLY RICE: Go ahead, I'm sorry.

MS. LINDA JORDAN: I like that thought, because we could maybe come in, maybe do, like, like you say, a luncheon or something, then you get to know, you know, you have us there, and then give -- we can give our thoughts and concerns or whatever, whatever, and then you can take it to your board and elaborate upon that and figure out how we can come back together as a team. Just a thought.

MS. MICHELLE WILLIS: Oh, like in the meeting?

MS. LINDA JORDAN: Yes, in your meeting.

MS. MICHELLE WILLIS: Like, we can get together, and we could split off, and then come back together or something like that?

MS. LINDA JORDAN: Well, yes, we'll come first -- I'm saying, like, do lunch or something, and you talk to us about things, and then we can tell you what we are thinking about. Then when you go to your retreat, because you don't want us in your retreat --

MS. MICHELLE WILLIS: Right.

MS. LINDA JORDAN: -- and then you can say, well, this is what the Board of Trustees, I mean, the Library Board said or their concerns, and try -- how to incorporate that to the Foundation.

MS. MICHELLE WILLIS: Yes.

MS. LINDA JORDAN: Is that a thought?

MS. MICHELLE WILLIS: No, no, no, no, the thought is good. But that's actually why we wanted to do it, because some of the thought, when I came back with the -- some of the thought was, like, you know, doing it later in the year. But I really wanted to make sure we got this done as quickly as possible. One, because it didn't happen last year, but two, I just feel like the sooner we can do it towards the beginning of the year, the more we can implement whatever we -- right? So, to your point, yes. So I'll take all of this back. I'm not -- I mean, I'm sure we can figure some of it out, and if it'll -- it's not going to work perfectly for everybody, I'm sure, for everyone's schedules, but whatever we can get. I think the biggest point for us as a board, and certainly for me, is just making sure that we move -- move forward, right, and we continue to establish that relationship, which is part of the reason that, you know, we started coming to the meetings last year, right, to forge that. So I mean, at least you guys all know what I look like now, you got that (indiscernible). But does that answer -- is that helpful?

MS. LINDA JORDAN: Yes, I guess.

MS. MICHELLE WILLIS: Okay. What I will do is see if there's any movement on that date. But as far as I know, like, that's what we put in for planning in December. Not exactly sure why, but that's the date. Then we can just go from there, maybe see who can -- who can make it, and figure out exactly what the actual agenda and timing looks like. Good? Okay.

MR. HIRSHEL HALL: To the extent -- just to jump in --

MS. MICHELLE WILLIS: Sure.

MR. HIRSHEL HALL: Yes, and to the extent there's a meeting that's being contemplated, I could separately offline, in a confidential, attorney-client communication, advise on any implications of the Open Meetings Act, and just so the Board is apprised of that, just to (indiscernible).

MS. LINDA JORDAN: Oh, yes, we need that.

CHAIR NINA RADAKOVICH: We have to consider that.

MR. HIRSHEL HALL: Yes, it's a consideration, just to make sure that anytime there's a quorum, four or more members of the Board meeting, and that will be conducting business or talking about the business of the library, consider the Open Meetings Act, so I should follow up on that.

MS. LINDA JORDAN: Right. Good point.

CHAIR NINA RADAKOVICH: We have in our notebooks an email that we got a couple of years ago, I think, from Jen, and we can refresh our memories as to that. But we can also just ask Hirshel, we've got X number of people coming, we're going to discuss whatever, is that permissible? Because I don't think we want to force ourselves to advertise a meeting.

MS. LINDA JORDAN: Right. I agree.

MS. BEVERLY RICE: I'd like to say we're just hanging out with the Foundation.

MS. MICHELLE WILLIS: Yes.

MS. BEVERLY RICE: Because one of the things I would like to know is just simply how we can help you guys as far as fundraising, or help to support you all, too, so.

MS. MICHELLE WILLIS: Yes. Thank you for that. I think we're in a cool -- we're in a good time right now, right, because there is this transition that's happening between losing our ED, and then bringing someone else on. Looking at exactly how we're conducting business, what the responsibilities are --

MS. BEVERLY RICE: Right.

MS. MICHELLE WILLIS: You know what I mean?

MS. BEVERLY RICE: Yes.

MS. MICHELLE WILLIS: So, all of the -- I think it's all good timing, right? Whenever there's a transition, it's always good to kind of adjust where needed, and to make sure that the partnerships that are forged are, you know, continuing to be developed in the right ways and all that stuff, so point taken.

CHAIR NINA RADAKOVICH: Another thing I'd like to point out as help that we get from the Foundation that has nothing to do with money, and that is, we talked last month a little bit about the Foundation creating a newsletter for us to send to our Commissioners, and that we would want it to be pretty much the same so that the Commissioners would feel like they were all getting the same information and the same quality of information. I have a document here, and I can't remember when I got it, but it seems to answer exactly what we discussed a month ago. Michelle wrote this, it's called Advocacy Talking Points for Elected and Appointed Leaders --

MS. MICHELLE WILLIS: I'm not sure if I wrote the whole thing, just to be fair. I might have had some input, but I don't want to take all of the credit for such a beautiful document.

CHAIR NINA RADAKOVICH: It's a beautiful document, and there's no other name on it, and it has an email model for us to use. So -- and it's short, you know, it's less than half a page, and it's just a way to get to let them know we're working for them and we're making progress. So maybe we can send this out to everybody.

MS. MICHELLE WILLIS: Yes, let me see if I can find an electronic copy of that too, so that -- because you just have the printed version, right?

CHAIR NINA RADAKOVICH: Right.

MS. MICHELLE WILLIS: The hard copy?

CHAIR NINA RADAKOVICH: Yes.

MS. MICHELLE WILLIS: There's got to be an electronic copy of this somewhere. I have the printed copy as well. Let me see, and that way, we could just forward it back out and see if that will work.

CHAIR NINA RADAKOVICH: But this is a perfect example of the Foundation helping us.

MS. LINDA JORDAN: You know, I wanted to ask this question, too, because that, to me, that's an in-kind contribution from her and her business to the Foundation. How do we, you know, let them know that we have somebody that's part of the Foundation that's doing -- giving them, you know, supporting us in-kind, because in-kind is -- that's something you can --

MS. CANDICE FRANKLIN: Contribution.

MS. LINDA JORDAN: -- put a value to. I'm just thinking out loud. What do you think about that?

CHAIR NINA RADAKOVICH: I don't know anything about that.

MS. MICHELLE WILLIS: I got a whole list that stuff. So if we want to go back with --

MS. LINDA JORDAN: No, I'm just saying that --

CHAIR NINA RADAKOVICH: Yes.

MS. LINDA JORDAN: -- point was saying --

MS. MICHELLE WILLIS: But no, absolutely, yes.

MS. LINDA JORDAN: -- and Chip might know more about it. But I'm just saying the fact that we have somebody that's on the Foundation side, but she's giving herself to do something for us at no charge, but that is in-kind, and that's a value they put -- a lot of people put value on in-kind; am I right? Just a thought.

CHAIR NINA RADAKOVICH: You've had a lot of good thoughts tonight.

MS. LINDA JORDAN: I know, right?

MS. MICHELLE WILLIS: But to that point, we're happy to do, and I'm certainly happy to do whatever we can help all across the board, so but that's a good call out.

MR. PAUL BOLSTER: Is there any report from your advocacy effort at the legislature? You know, we're --

MS. MICHELLE WILLIS: Gosh, I knew you're going to ask that, too. I'm getting good at figuring out --

MR. PAUL BOLSTER: -- concerned with that --

MS. MICHELLE WILLIS: -- what these questions are going to be. Yes. We have not done anything yet, obviously, we're full swing in Session. We haven't heard anything, and we haven't done anything yet. Part of that is because we are in this transition with Erin, and we've been kind of, you know, off boarding her and working on developing things for whoever new is coming in. The Advocacy Committee has met, but I know that we haven't heard anything or done anything specifically as of yet. But if you hear anything, anything that we should be doing, anything that you need some help on or a partner, please let us know. But as of right now, nothing.

MR. PAUL BOLSTER: Well, I -- I'm just concerned with that awful Bill that makes all of our librarians criminal.

MS. MICHELLE WILLIS: We haven't heard anything about that Bill yet.

MR. PAUL BOLSTER: So if you hear any --

MS. MICHELLE WILLIS: Yes.

MR. PAUL BOLSTER: -- little rumors about that, because now where its posture is such that it could pass very quickly. It's in the -- it's a Senate Bill in the House Committee, and it could come out very quickly and pass through the whole Legislature. So we ought to have that on our early warning list from --

CHAIR NINA RADAKOVICH: One way --

MR. PAUL BOLSTER: -- especially from the -- and I'm sure that the State Association probably is going to be watching that.

CHAIR NINA RADAKOVICH: I was just going to say that. The Georgia Library Association, it costs \$20 a year, and they don't send a lot. But when something's serious, they, like that Bill, they send sent information out to their members, Georgia Library Association.

MS. LINDA JORDAN: We should ask Chair Holloman -- I mean, Holloman, what have you heard? Because she's the one probably going to get a lot of this information about what's going on and what, you know, who's advocating for what. Have you heard anything about it?

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: I've not heard anything specific to that particular Bill, but it did go -- the Legislation went back in Session, and our External Affairs' staff are always on it. They have a whole crew of people who stay tuned to everything going on. So, we're working with them, and any time we had any reports, Georgia Public Library Service would give us their opinions, the Urban Libraries Council would do so also, and I would share all of that with the Department Head for External Affairs. So, they're looking in it.

MR. PAUL BOLSTER: So is that group of lobbyists for the county --

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: Yes.

MR. PAUL BOLSTER: -- are they monitoring this Bill?

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: Yes.

MR. PAUL BOLSTER: They are? Okay.

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: So we'll see --

MR. PAUL BOLSTER: So they -- if they see anything, they're going to let the Foundation know, and the rest of us --

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: But more than likely, they'll let me know, and then I will let the Foundation and you all know.

MR. PAUL BOLSTER: Okay.

MS. MICHELLE WILLIS: Yes, that is -- oh, oh, yes, we talked about that. Yes, so I think that's it. Again, if you -- I'll send you my information, so if there's anything that you might normally reach out to Erin for, you can certainly just reach out to me, and we can get it taken care of. We'll work on March 24th, I'll send some communication over on that. And just a sidebar, as you guys were talking about the AI training and the telemedicine stuff, that might be good once we get our new ED in place, maybe we can look for grants and funding that specifically will help fund some of this training or AI or something that we're talking about if you, you know, if that might be something that we can put on the radar. Because there -- I mean, you guys know, there's grants for everything, if you just know, they get real rich, right? So that could be something that we might be able to help out, too.

MS. LINDA JORDAN: The only question I have is, do we know when the Library Day is at the Capitol? Like, I was there last year, and I didn't know.

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: I don't have the date. But I think they've already set it.

MS. LINDA JORDAN: So once you know, you can --

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: So I can get the --

MS. LINDA JORDAN: -- let us know, so those --

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: -- Library Day.

MS. LINDA JORDAN: -- of us that are available, may can show up for Library Day.

MS. CANDICE FRANKLIN: If we have a partner or a potential sponsor that would, I think, sponsor and pay for that training, just you know, on protocol, do I send them -- I can send those to you? How does that work?

MS. MICHELLE WILLIS: I believe you can, but if it's coming from the Board of Trustees, I don't know if there's another specific --

MS. CANDICE FRANKLIN: That's why I want to make sure there's no -- because I have, in my fundraising space, I have a company that I think would probably do that.

MS. MICHELLE WILLIS: Yes, if it's --

MS. CANDICE FRANKLIN: The program would have to be written up and put together and they would probably fund it if I asked them to.

MS. MICHELLE WILLIS: I mean, we certainly --

MS. CANDICE FRANKLIN: Just keeping in there --

MS. MICHELLE WILLIS: -- could write -- we could write, you know, we could certainly write the grant for it. But as long as it goes to the appropriate channels --

MS. CANDICE FRANKLIN: Yes, that's what I just know about the channels to send that funder --

MS. LINDA JORDAN: Well, Nina could speak more to it, but I do think it might be best going to that, but Nina, we can research it. But if you have somebody, I mean, the fact that we can get it done. So what are your thoughts, Madam Chair?

CHAIR NINA RADAKOVICH: You're talking about raising money?

MS. LINDA JORDAN: No, no, she has somebody that might be able to --

MS. CANDICE FRANKLIN: I just -- I work --

MS. MICHELLE WILLIS: What's the chain of command?

MS. CANDICE FRANKLIN: What's the chain of command? I work with a lot of -- there's a tech group that works with the city of Atlanta on a lot of things, because the Mayor is very into his technology and stuff, so I'm with --

MS. MICHELLE WILLIS: Yes, he is --

MS. CANDICE FRANKLIN: -- I'm just saying, I could reach out to them at some point, because some of them reach out to meet to try to find partnerships to do things exactly like --

MS. LINDA JORDAN: Like the AI training we're talking about.

MS. CANDICE FRANKLIN: -- like we're talking about.

MS. LINDA JORDAN: So --

MS. CANDICE FRANKLIN: I just don't know the protocol. I can talk to you offline about it.

MS. MICHELLE WILLIS: I'll send her my information --

MS. CANDICE FRANKLIN: Okay.

MS. MICHELLE WILLIS: -- so you can get directly with me -- to me, if it's okay.

MS. CANDICE FRANKLIN: Absolutely, yes.

MS. MICHELLE WILLIS: Okay.

MR. PAUL BOLSTER: So, our Development Authority of Fulton County just gave Amazon \$16 million of our tax dollars as an incentive to do something. So maybe you might look at where Amazon has little grants they could make through our -- though our county --

MS. MICHELLE WILLIS: Yes.

MR. PAUL BOLSTER: -- library system, just --

MS. MICHELLE WILLIS: Yes, we'll check in -- I know Erin was really good at that. She got us the Google, like, two years in a row. So, she's probably looked, but I definitely -- Amazon is -- I usually is one --

MS. CANDICE FRANKLIN: Amazon is who I was actually --

MS. MICHELLE WILLIS: Amazon and Microsoft, Google --

MS. CANDICE FRANKLIN: -- talking about.

MS. MICHELLE WILLIS: -- all of those guys at the top are trying to -- trying to submit. So I'll -- but I'll certainly make sure it gets run back --

MR. PAUL BOLSTER: But just in light of the fact that they -- we just gave them \$16 million --

MS. MICHELLE WILLIS: 16 million, yes.

MR. PAUL BOLSTER: -- so maybe they might be a little bit --

MS. MICHELLE WILLIS: Give us our money back?

MR. PAUL BOLSTER: -- more inclined to be generous to us.

MS. MICHELLE WILLIS: Yes.

MS. LINDA JORDAN: But the key, though --

MS. MICHELLE WILLIS: Absolutely.

MS. LINDA JORDAN: -- is that they're building data centers, but they're supposed to do education and teaching people how to, you know, that AI, which I raised in a meeting last week. So the point is that you're getting tax breaks, and I love all of them, Microsoft, Google -- my good friend works at Amazon. So we're giving you breaks to do that, but your goal, you're supposed to help train people on the educational side of AI.

MS. MICHELLE WILLIS: Right.

MS. LINDA JORDAN: Who's doing that, and who's monitoring that? So back to what Candice is saying, who we can get to make sure we can train folks to know. You don't want to train them after the fact, AI moves like light speed ahead.

MS. MICHELLE WILLIS: Sure.

MS. LINDA JORDAN: So that's what we need to look at.

MS. MICHELLE WILLIS: Oh, that's a great call out, Paul. I'll make sure that we circle back and see, see what that Amazon money is looking like.

MR. PAUL BOLSTER: Yes, Amazon.

MS. CANDICE FRANKLIN: I have the Amazon plug, that's actually -- I wasn't going to throw it out of here. But that's one --

MS. LINDA JORDAN: We love them all, Amazon, Microsoft, all of them --

MS. CANDICE FRANKLIN: That's the -- I will go this way --

MS. LINDA JORDAN: -- because all of them get breaks --

MR. PAUL BOLSTER: Yes, I'm not sure why they need those breaks myself, but --

MS. MICHELLE WILLIS: Okay.

MS. CANDICE FRANKLIN: Put you with Terria.

MS. MICHELLE WILLIS: Oh, well, at Amazon? Yesh, yes, yes. We sit on another board together.

MS. CANDICE FRANKLIN: There we go.

MS. MICHELLE WILLIS: So, we -- yes, so, yes, that would be good.

MS. CANDICE FRANKLIN: Yes, I could bridge that conversation.

MS. MICHELLE WILLIS: Perfect.

MS. CANDICE FRANKLIN: Okay.

MS. MICHELLE WILLIS: Yes. Anything else for me? Anything that we can continue to do to serve you better, especially this year?

MR. PAUL BOLSTER: You do a great job giving us lots opportunity --

MS. MICHELLE WILLIS: Thank you.

MR. PAUL BOLSTER: -- to just discuss stuff.

MS. LINDA JORDAN: Exactly.

MR. PAUL BOLSTER: Appreciate your discussion.

MS. MICHELLE WILLIS: Thank you. I appreciate you guys letting me come in.

CHAIR NINA RADAKOVICH: We appreciate you and what you do for us.

MS. MICHELLE WILLIS: Thank you. Alrighty.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION

CHAIR NINA RADAKOVICH: Do I hear a motion to adjourn?

MS. LINDA JORDAN: So, moved.

MS. BEVERLY RICE: Second.

CHAIR NINA RADAKOVICH: All in favor?

TRUSTEES: Aye.

CHAIR NINA RADAKOVICH: Okay, we're adjourned.

(Whereupon the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees concluded at 5:09 p.m.)

January 2026

The Year of the Book started with great enthusiasm that seems to be contagious. Patrons and partners are excited about where the theme will lead.

Staff participated in the required systemwide initiative for January's "Year of the Book" offerings to create communities through shared stories. They reflected the community by creating a display featuring banned books that matched the monthly theme, Freedom to Read – "Books Unite Us". The staff also participated in the systemwide Dewey and Deci Week by displaying coloring and activity sheets and placing mascot cutouts around the libraries for children to enjoy, with a keychain awarded to the child who found the most.

Highlighted Programs/Displays

Throughout the Library System displays and programs were presented, which included the observance of the birthday of Dr. M. L. King, Jr.; America 250; the World Cup; and various partnerships kickstarted what is shaping up to be a busy year.

Other Programs

- Storytime
- Dementia
- Yoga
- Tai Chi
- Gardening

Partnerships

- AARP Tax Prep
- Helping Mamas
- Point in Time Count assistance to Social Services Staff as they worked with PAD 311 (Policing Alternatives and Diversion)
- Atlanta Public Schools Literacy Night
- The City of East Point offered a 3-day Entrepreneur Series on banking and access to capital at the East Point Library

FULTON COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM

MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT - TOTAL LIBRARY

AS OF JANUARY 31, 2026

SERVICE TYPE	2026 BUDGET ALLOCATION	JANUARY EXPENDITURES	2025 YTD EXPENDITURES	2025 YTD ENCUMBRANCES	2025 YTD COMMITTED	2025 YTD %COMMITTED	BUDGET BALANCE
REG SALARY	16,825,356	1,229,683	1,229,683		1,229,683	7%	15,595,673
SALARIES-OVERTIME	104,208	-	-		-	0%	104,208
PART TIME SALARY	525,091	30,356	30,356		30,356	6%	494,735
SEASONAL					-	#DIV/0!	-
BENEFITS	8,620,520	628,816	628,816		628,816	7%	7,991,704
BOOKS	3,395,984	-	-	887,512	887,512	26%	2,508,472
OFFICE EQUIP. REPAIR	62,018	-	-	5,623	5,623	9%	56,395
EQUIPMENT	145,061	-	-	-	-	0%	145,061
OFFICE FURNITURE	5,738	-	-		-	0%	5,738
PROFESSIONAL SERV	26,800	-	-	-	-	0%	26,800
COPIER MACHINE	174,000	-	-	-	-	0%	174,000
SUPPLIES	122,140	-	-	-	-	0%	122,140
COMPUTER HARDWARE	498,917	-	-	-	-	0%	498,917
RENT	217,632	-	-	18,013	18,013	8%	199,619
OTHER SERVICES	358,385	3,318	3,618	4,000	7,618	2%	350,767
TRAVEL/CONFERENCE	18,500	765	765		765	4%	17,735
HOSPITALITY	44,643	-	-	-	-	0%	44,643
VEHICLE MAINTENANCE	27,211	1,782	1,782		1,782	7%	25,429
GENERAL INSURANCE	825,217	68,668	68,668	-	68,668	8%	756,549
CONTINGENCY				-	-	-	-
TOTAL	31,997,421	1,963,387	1,963,687	915,148	2,878,835	9%	29,118,586

FULTON COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM
MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT - BY ORG TYPE

AS OF JANUARY 31, 2026

ORGANIZATION TYPE	CATEGORY	SERVICE TYPE	2025 BUDGET ALLOCATION	JANUARY EXPENSES	2025 YTD EXPENDITURES	2025 YTD ENCUMBRANCES	2025 YTD COMMITTED	2025 YTD % COMMITTED	BUDGET BALANCE
PUBLIC SERVICE	SALARY AND BENEFITS	REG SALARY	\$ 11,761,332.00	\$ 880,990.35	\$ 880,990.35		\$ 880,990.35	7%	\$ 10,880,342
	SALARY AND BENEFITS	SALARIES-OVERTIME	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -	#DIV/0!	\$ -
	SALARY AND BENEFITS	PART TIME SALARY	\$ 439,021.00	\$ 30,355.66	\$ 30,355.66		\$ 30,355.66	7%	\$ 408,665
	SALARY AND BENEFITS	BENEFITS	\$ 6,194,479.00	\$ 464,341.18	\$ 464,341.18		\$ 464,341.18	7%	\$ 5,730,138
	BOOKS	BOOKS	\$ 2,584,456.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 887,511.67	\$ 887,511.67	34%	\$ 1,696,944
	OPERATING	OFFICE EQUIP. REPAIR	\$ 62,017.82	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,623.18	\$ 5,623.18	9%	\$ 56,395
	OPERATING	EQUIPMENT	\$ 105,795.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0%	\$ 105,795
	OPERATING	OFFICE FURNITURE	\$ 3,306.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0%	\$ 3,306
	OPERATING	PROFESSIONAL SERV	\$ 22,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0%	\$ 22,000
	COPIER MACHINE	COPIER MACHINE	\$ 174,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0%	\$ 174,000
	OPERATING	SUPPLIES	\$ 56,289.00	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -	0%	\$ 56,289
	RENT	RENT	\$ 216,532.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 18,012.87	\$ 18,012.87	8%	\$ 198,519
	OPERATING	OTHER SERVICES	\$ 130,813.00	\$ 3,318.00	\$ 3,318.00		\$ 3,318.00	3%	\$ 127,495
	OPERATING	HOSPITALITY	\$ 25,252.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0%	\$ 25,252
	GENERAL INSURANCE	GENERAL INSURANCE	\$ 560,400.00	\$ 46,700.00	\$ 46,700.00	\$ -	\$ 46,700.00	8%	\$ 513,700
			\$ 22,335,692.82	\$ 1,425,705.19	\$ 1,425,705.19	\$ 911,147.72	\$ 2,336,852.91	10%	\$19,998,840

FULTON COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM
MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT - BY ORG TYPE

AS OF JANUARY 31, 2026

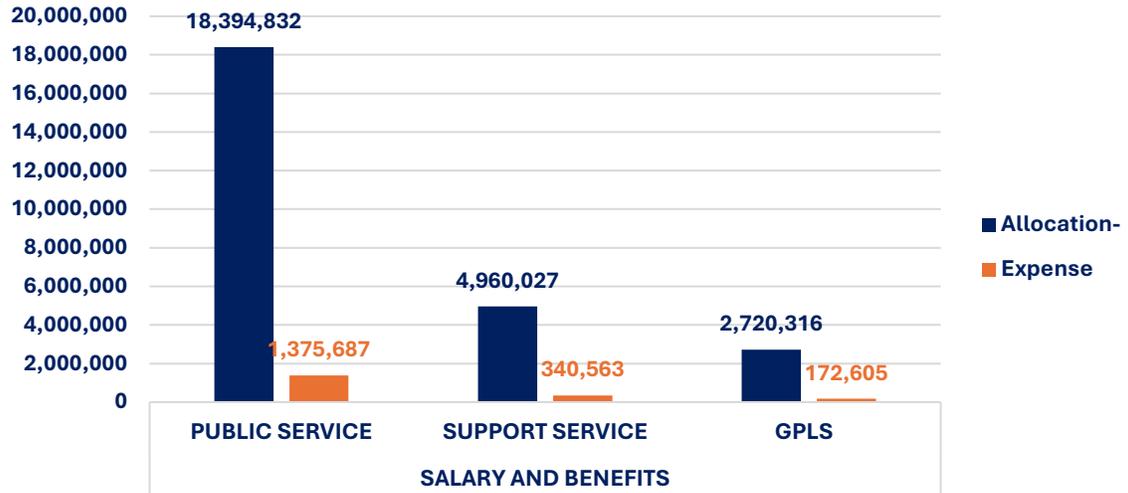
ORGANIZATION TYPE	CATEGORY	SERVICE TYPE	2025 BUDGET ALLOCATION	JANUARY EXPENSES	2025 YTD EXPENDITURES	2025 YTD ENCUMBRANCES	2025 YTD COMMITTED	2025 YTD % COMMITTED	BUDGET BALANCE
SUPPORT SERVICE	SALARY AND BENEFITS	REG SALARY	\$ 3,166,960.00	\$ 229,411.44	\$ 229,411.44	\$ -	\$ 229,411.44	7%	\$ 2,937,549
	SALARY AND BENEFITS	PART TIME SALARY	\$ 86,070.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0%	\$ 86,070
	SALARY AND BENEFITS	SEASONAL	\$ 104,208.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0%	\$ 104,208
	SALARY AND BENEFITS	BENEFITS	\$ 1,602,789.00	\$ 111,151.16	\$ 111,151.16		\$ 111,151.16	7%	\$ 1,491,638
	OPERATING	EQUIPMENT	\$ 39,266.00	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -	\$ 39,266.00
	OPERATING	OFFICE FURNITURE	\$ 2,432.00	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -	0%	\$ 2,432
	OPERATING	PROFESSIONAL SERV	\$ 4,800.00	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -	0%	\$ 4,800
	OPERATING	SUPPLIES	\$ 65,851.00	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -	0%	\$ 65,851
	COMPUTER HARDWARE	COMPUTER HARDWARE	\$ 498,917.00	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -	0%	\$ 498,917
	OPERATING	OTHER SERVICES	\$ 227,572.18		\$ -	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 4,000.00	2%	\$ 223,572
	OPERATING	TRAVEL/CONFERENCE	\$ 18,500.00	\$ 765.00	\$ 765.00		\$ 765.00	4%	\$ 17,735
	OPERATING	HOSPITALITY	\$ 19,391.00	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -	0%	\$ 19,391
	OPERATING	VEHICLE MAINTENANCE	\$ 27,211.00	\$ 1,781.62	\$ 1,781.62		\$ 1,781.62	7%	\$ 25,429
	GENERAL INSURANCE	GENERAL INSURANCE	\$ 264,817.00	\$ 21,968.08	\$ 21,968.08		\$ 21,968.08	8%	\$ 242,849
	RENT	RENT	\$ 1,100.00		\$ -		\$ -	0%	\$ 1,100
	OPERATING	CONTINGENCY					\$ -	0%	\$ -
			\$ 6,129,884.18	\$ 365,077.30	\$ 365,077.30	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 369,077.30	6%	\$ 5,760,807

FULTON COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM
MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT - BY ORG TYPE

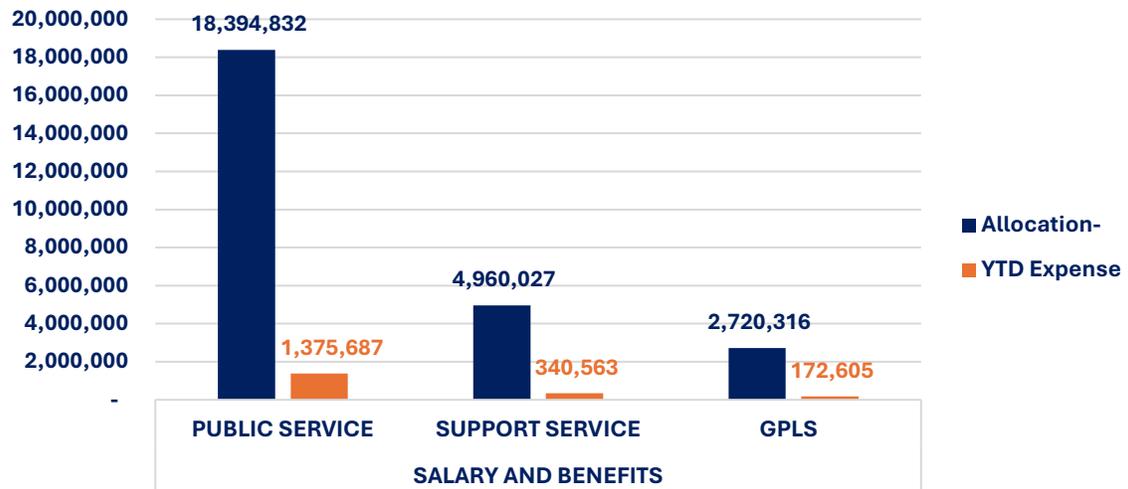
AS OF JANUARY 31, 2026

ORGANIZATION TYPE	CATEGORY	SERVICE TYPE	2025 BUDGET ALLOCATION	JANUARY EXPENSES	2025 YTD EXPENDITURES	2025 YTD ENCUMBRANCES	2025 YTD COMMITTED	2025 YTD % COMMITTED	BUDGET BALANCE
GPLS	SALARY AND BENEFITS	REG SALARY	\$ 1,897,064.00	\$ 119,281.68	\$ 119,281.68		\$ 119,281.68	6%	\$ 1,777,782
	SALARY AND BENEFITS	BENEFITS	\$ 823,252.00	\$ 53,323.27	\$ 53,323.27		\$ 53,323.27	6%	\$ 769,929
	BOOKS	BOOKS	\$ 811,528.00		\$ -		\$ -	0%	\$ 811,528
TOTAL			\$ 3,531,844.00	\$ 172,604.95	\$ 172,604.95	\$ -	\$ 172,604.95	5%	\$ 3,359,239

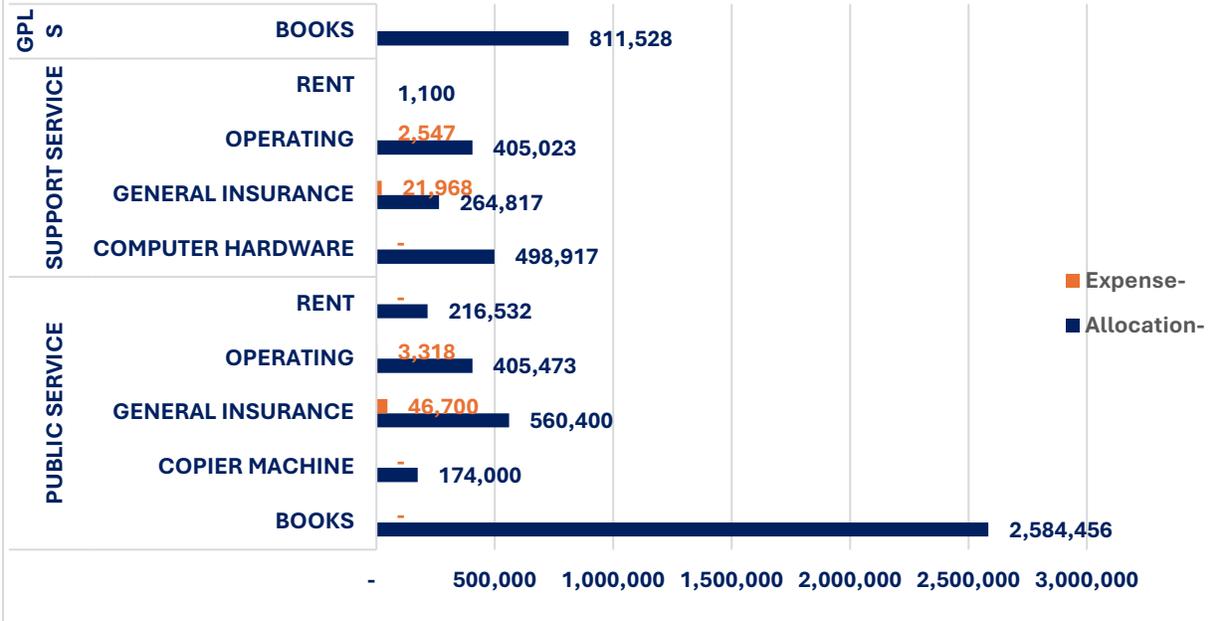
January Salary and Benefits by Program



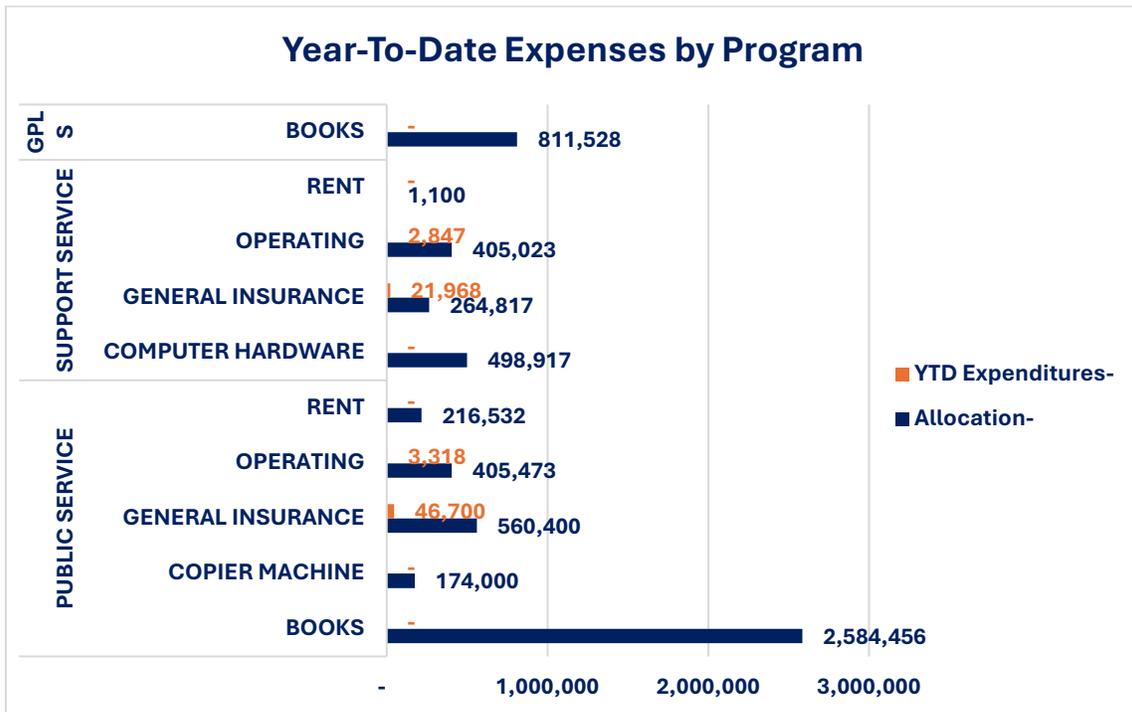
Year-To-Date Salary and Benefits by Program



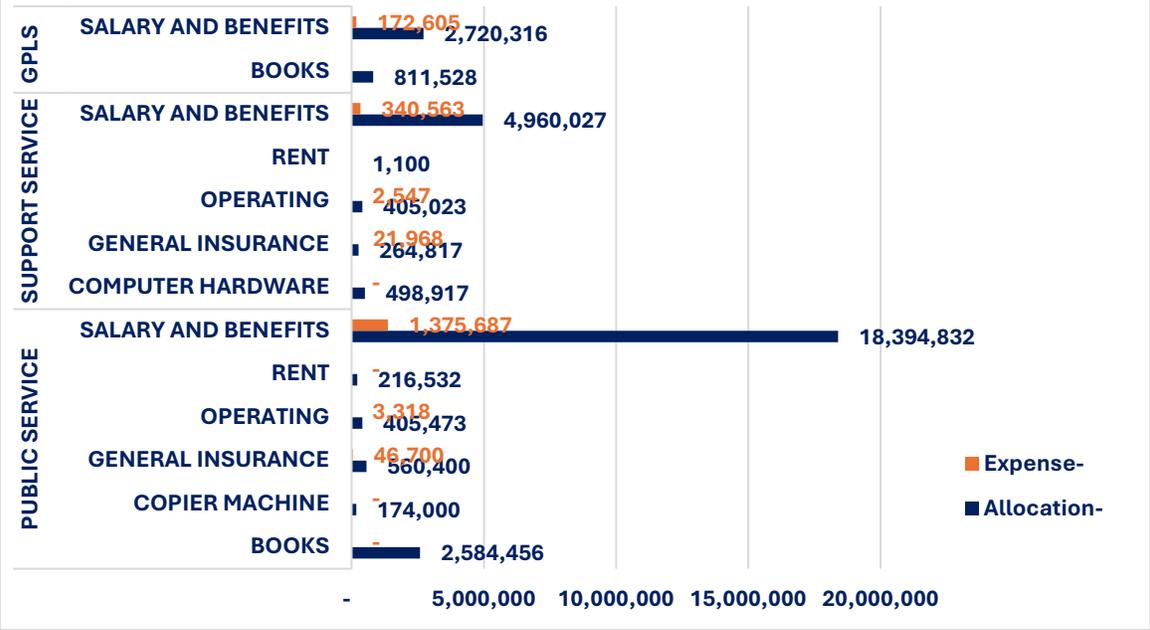
January Operating Expenses by Program



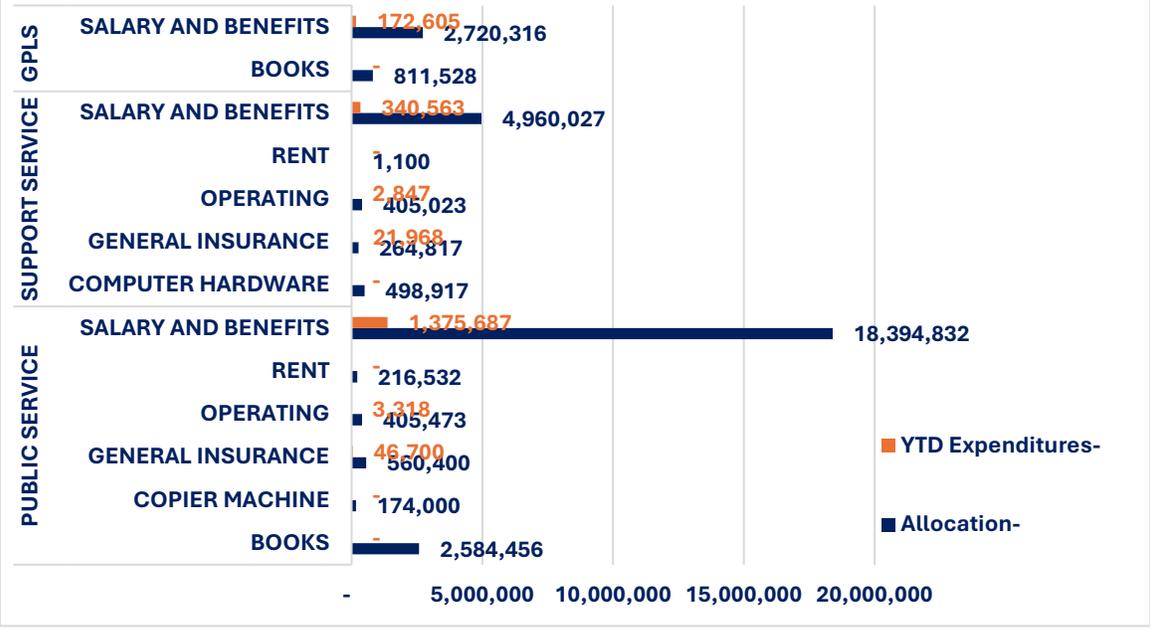
Year-To-Date Expenses by Program



January Total Expenses by Category



Grand Total Year-To-Date Expenses



Monthly Usage Summary - January 2026

Doc. #26-09

Activity and Description	2026	YTD	2025	YTD	YTD % +/-
Circulation					
Total number of items checked out of the library	172374	172374	180662	180662	-5%
Holds					
Number of requests by patrons	49,863	49863	50050	50050	0%
Visits					
Number of people entering a library for any reason	177614	177614	150859	150859	18%
Computer/Internet Usage					
Number of computer sessions (Internet access and office software)	62245	62245	64214	64214	-3%
Number of hours of computer use	29,227	29227	25573	25573	14%
Web Page Visits					
Number of times people have visited the library's websites	1415542	1415542	1368712	1368712	3%
Web Visitors					
Number of people who visited the library's websites	230,186	230186	212574	212574	8%
Virtual Circulation					
Number of materials downloaded or streamed	182472	182472	190303	190303	-4%
Virtual Circulation Users					
Number of people who downloaded or streamed	43296	43296	39353	39353	10%
Children's programs					
Library sponsored programs offered for children (birth - 12)	324	324	208	208	56%
Number of people attending programs	8513	8513	4933	4933	73%
Teen Programs					
Library sponsored programs offered for teens (13 - 17)	63	63	41	41	54%
Number of people attending programs	717	717	379	379	89%
Adult Programs					
Library sponsored programs offered for adults (18 +)	315	315	299	299	5%
Number of people attending programs	3105	3105	2999	2999	4%
Programs - Total					
Library sponsored programs offered (includes all-ages not counting)	817	817	650	650	26%
Number of people attending programs	15434	15434	11125	11125	39%
Meeting Rooms					
Non-library sponsored meetings or activities scheduled	384	384	303	303	27%
Number of people attending meetings or activities	4395	4395	5147	5147	-15%

January 2026 Executive Write Up

There were technical issues with the gate counter at the Cleveland Avenue Library last month. We found a resolution and have adjusted the number of visits recorded in December to reflect this. The number increased from 984 to 2663 visits in December of 2025.

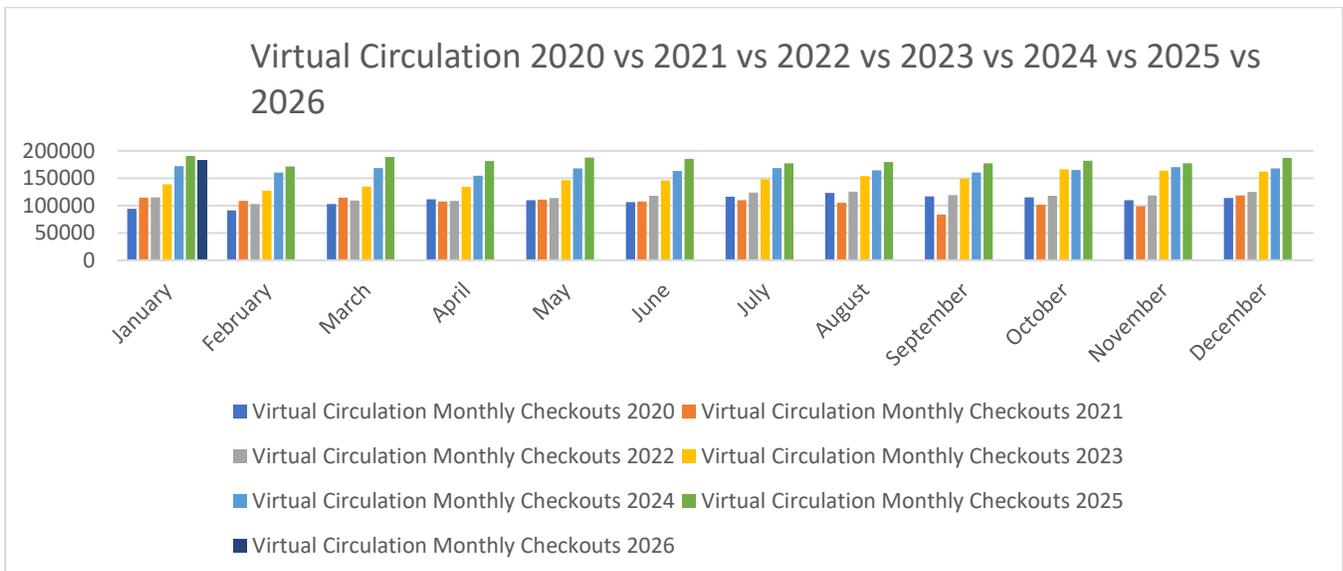
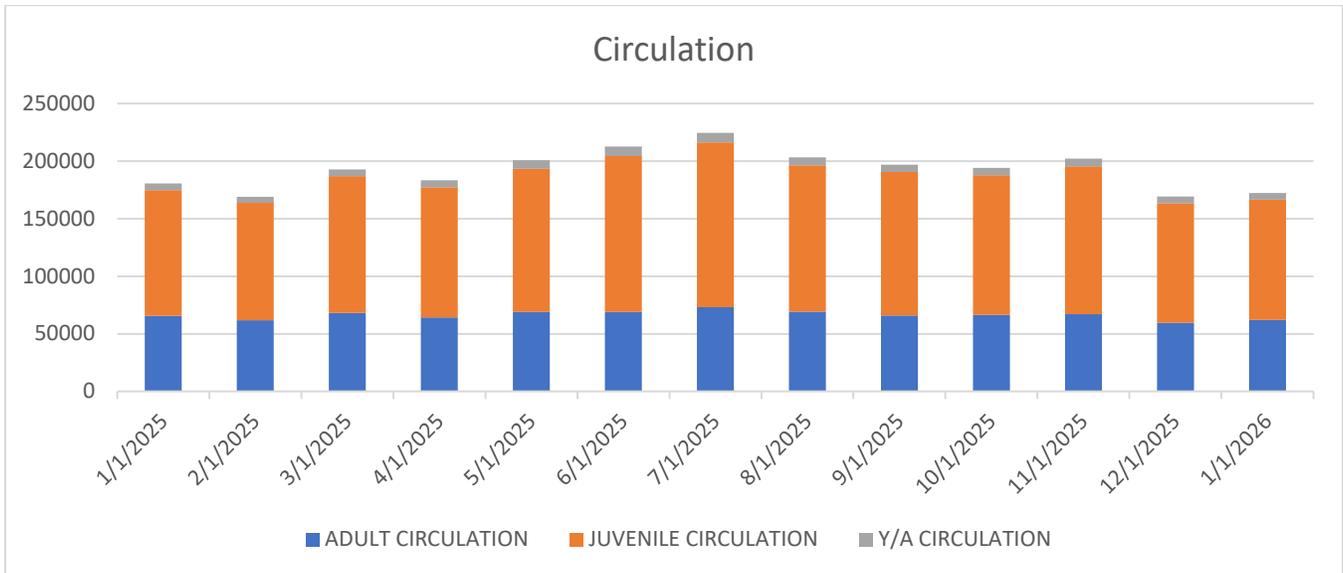
Fulton County Library System Circulation Stats - January 2026

AGENCY NAME	ADULT	JUVENILE	Y/A	OTHER	Month-2026 TOTAL	Month-2025 TOTAL	INCREASE/ DECREASE	PERCENT CHANGE	YTD 2026 CIRC	YTD 2025 CIRC	INCREASE/ DECREASE	PERCENT CHANGE
ADAMS PARK	348	395	40	0	783	953	-170	-17.84%	783	953	-170	-17.84%
ADAMSVILLE/COLLIER HEIGHTS	519	393	59	0	971	1013	-42	-4.15%	971	1,013	-42	-4.15%
ALPHARETTA	4904	11774	529	3	17210	17948	-738	-4.11%	17,210	17,948	-738	-4.11%
BUCKHEAD	3887	5003	183	3	9076	10733	-1657	-15.44%	9,076	10,733	-1,657	-15.44%
CLEVELAND AVE	268	300	34	0	602	6	596	9933.33%	602	6	596	9933.33%
COLLEGE PARK	524	811	50	0	1385	1857	-472	-25.42%	1,385	1,857	-472	-25.42%
DOGWOOD	218	106	30	0	354	553	-199	-35.99%	354	553	-199	-35.99%
EAST ATLANTA	2246	3232	158	0	5636	6032	-396	-6.56%	5,636	6,032	-396	-6.56%
EAST POINT	544	244	30	3	821	180	641	356.11%	821	180	641	356.11%
EAST ROSWELL	4225	7138	329	3	11695	11833	-138	-1.17%	11,695	11,833	-138	-1.17%
EVELYN G. LOWERY @ CASCADE	895	1136	108	1	2140	2258	-118	-5.23%	2,140	2,258	-118	-5.23%
FAIRBURN	574	639	43	0	1256	1784	-528	-29.60%	1,256	1,784	-528	-29.60%
GLADYS S. DENNARD @ SOUTH FULTON	1058	1293	140	0	2491	2588	-97	-3.75%	2,491	2,588	-97	-3.75%
HAPEVILLE	776	752	150	0	1678	1651	27	1.64%	1,678	1,651	27	1.64%
JOAN P. GARNER @ PONCE DE LEON	4189	5027	289	9	9514	11230	-1716	-15.28%	9,514	11,230	-1,716	-15.28%
KIRKWOOD	1558	3806	120	5	5489	6235	-746	-11.96%	5,489	6,235	-746	-11.96%
LOUISE WATLEY @ SOUTHEAST ATLANTA	631	986	77	0	1694	2075	-381	-18.36%	1,694	2,075	-381	-18.36%
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR	415	413	23	0	851	662	189	28.55%	851	662	189	28.55%
MECHANICSVILLE	201	215	20	0	436	552	-116	-21.01%	436	552	-116	-21.01%
METROPOLITAN	1275	2531	95	3	3904	4863	-959	-19.72%	3,904	4,863	-959	-19.72%
MILTON	3941	7685	369	4	11999	13871	-1872	-13.50%	11,999	13,871	-1,872	-13.50%
NORTHEAST/SPRUILL OAKS	2567	6812	464	8	9851	9634	217	2.25%	9,851	9,634	217	2.25%
NORTHSIDE	2824	6067	224	1	9116	9790	-674	-6.88%	9,116	9,790	-674	-6.88%
NORTHWEST @ SCOTTS CROSSING	1113	2253	127	2	3495	3363	132	3.93%	3,495	3,363	132	3.93%
OCEE	4227	10718	723	5	15673	17625	-1952	-11.08%	15,673	17,625	-1,952	-11.08%
PALMETTO	400	819	58	0	1277	1251	26	2.08%	1,277	1,251	26	2.08%
PEACHTREE	1890	1703	117	7	3717	612	3105	507.35%	3,717	612	3,105	507.35%
ROSWELL	5106	7854	383	6	13349	14057	-708	-5.04%	13,349	14,057	-708	-5.04%
SANDY SPRINGS	6051	8951	424	15	15441	16394	-953	-5.81%	15,441	16,394	-953	-5.81%
WASHINGTON PARK	458	669	67	1	1195	1142	53	4.64%	1,195	1,142	53	4.64%
WEST END	591	925	80	1	1597	1490	107	7.18%	1,597	1,490	107	7.18%
WOLFCREEK	1344	2067	137	1	3549	3411	138	4.05%	3,549	3,411	138	4.05%
BRANCHES TOTAL	59767	102717	5680	81	168245	177646	-9401	-5.29%	168,245	177,646	-9,401	-5.29%
CENTRAL	2244	1618	232	5	4099	2951	1148	38.90%	4,099	2,951	1,148	38.90%
OUTREACH SERVICES	0	0	0	0	0	3	-3	-1	0	3	-3	-100.00%
AUBURN AVENUE RESEARCH	30	0	0	0	30	62	-32	-51.61%	30	62	-32	-51.61%
SYSTEM TOTAL	62041	104335	5912	86	172374	180662	-8288	-4.59%	172,374	180,662	-8,288	-4.59%

FULTON COUNTY SYSTEM STATS AT A GLANCE - January 2026

AGENCY NAME	TOTAL CIRCULATION	TOTAL REGISTRATIONS	COMPUTER USAGE	LIBRARY VISITS	NUMBER OF PROGRAMS	PROGRAM ATTENDANCE	NUMBER OF MEETINGS	MEETING ROOM ATTENDANCE	VOTER REGISTRATIONS
ADAMS PARK	783	123	2595	3,832	32	137	15	94	0
ADAMSVILLE/COLLIER HEIGHTS	971	71	3268	3,821	18	71	2	15	2
ALPHARETTA	17,210	655	518	4,269	43	1489	14	355	0
BUCKHEAD	9,076	741	2144	9,186	23	1146	24	919	1
CLEVELAND AVE	602	53	465	4009	10	21	3	55	0
COLLEGE PARK	1,385	94	707	1,656	14	118	4	65	0
DOGWOOD	354	55	616	4,204	8	25	1	22	2
EAST ATLANTA	5,636	378	1400	5717	17	252	6	52	0
EAST POINT	821	195	1358	4396	28	425	22	135	0
EAST ROSWELL	11,695	360	555	5,607	35	785	7	69	0
EVELYN G. LOWERY @ CASCADE	2,140	242	2138	4,294	27	350	36	105	0
FAIRBURN	1,256	220	647	2140	10	100	18	76	5
GLADYS S. DENNARD @ SOUTH FULTON	2,491	261	1492	2,363	32	414	10	15	0
HAPEVILLE	1,678	63	1175	1863	11	147	14	160	0
JOAN P. LOWERY @ PONCE DE LEON	9,514	591	6418	5,755	31	282	0	0	1
KIRKWOOD	5,489	294	827	5,408	19	434	8	55	1
LOUISE WATLEY @ SOUTHEAST ATLANTA	1,694	78	791	3181	39	227	14	100	0
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR	851	116	366	1545	25	44	24	42	1
MECHANICSVILLE	436	47	2840	2,540	11	24	4	37	3
METROPOLITAN	3,904	226	1108	4,790	21	380	30	167	0
MILTON	11,999	428	397	6,023	53	791	14	210	3
NORTHEAST/SPRUILL OAKS	9,851	309	295	5,318	38	753	10	151	3
NORTHSIDE	9,116	333	749	5,994	17	1009	7	91	0
NORTHWEST @ SCOTTS CROSSING	3,495	178	1240	4,780	16	292	2	82	0
OCEE	15,673	459	683	8,789	19	523	4	25	0
PALMETTO	1,277	87	236	2,118	14	80	6	158	0
PEACHTREE	3717	494	1169	4843	17	137	1	9	5
ROSWELL	13,349	577	1710	10887	42	874	10	94	0
SANDY SPRINGS	15,441	801	2731	15,843	60	2620	5	46	5
WASHINGTON PARK	1195	78	1700	3,323	10	123	4	41	1
WEST END	1,597	95	2073	4,132	5	12	15	80	0
WOLFCREEK	3,549	210	741	2,810	10	114	27	347	0
BRANCHES TOTAL	168,245	8,912	45,152	155,436	755	14,199	361	3,872	33
CENTRAL	4,099	483	17012	21,139	48	638	23	523	10
VIRTUAL PROGRAMS					3	29			
OUTREACH VIRTUAL PROGRAMS	0	1	0	0	10	504	0	0	0
AUBURN AVENUE RESEARCH	30	2	81	1039	1	64	0	0	0
SYSTEM TOTAL	172,374	9,398	62,245	177,614	817	15,434	384	4,395	43

January 2026 Executive Summary – Charts



January 2022 virtual circulation and virtual circulation users numbers were revised upward due to Hoopla.

