

**Resolution 19-07  
A Resolution Honoring  
Thomas Dabney (“Tom”) Kern, Jr.  
for Twenty-Seven Years of Service to the  
Wauconda Area Community as  
Library Director  
for the  
Wauconda Area Public Library District**

This 9<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2019, the Board of Library Trustees of the Wauconda Area Public Library District ardently resolves that:

WHEREAS, Thomas Dabney Kern, Jr., better known as Tom Kern, was appointed to the position of Library Director by the Wauconda Area Public Library District Board of Trustees, effective April 1, 1992; and

WHEREAS, Tom Kern has served continually as Library Director since 1992; and

WHEREAS, Tom Kern has served successfully as Library Director for a total of twenty-seven years; and

WHEREAS, Tom Kern served successfully as Library Director through the voter-approved \$4.5 million building bond referendum of 1995; and

WHEREAS, Tom Kern served successfully as Library Director through the planning and completion of the building expansion and remodeling project in 1996 and 1997, resulting in an award-winning library facility nearly three times the size of the original; and

WHEREAS, Tom Kern served successfully as Library Director through the substantial increase in staffing of the new expanded facility as needed; and

WHEREAS, Tom Kern served successfully as Library Director through the planning and administration of the voter-approved operating tax rate referendum of 2001; and

WHEREAS, Tom Kern served successfully as Library Director when the library was named North Suburban Library System's "Library of the Year" in 2005, described in the award announcement as “the little library that does”; and

WHEREAS, Tom Kern has exemplified in his capacity as Library Director what it means to be a community leader and librarian through his service to all Wauconda Area patrons, his many years of involvement with the United Partnership for a Better Community, and his voluntary work on the Citizens’ Referendum Committee for the successful \$60 million referendum in 2005 for the expansion of facilities of the Wauconda School District 118; and

WHEREAS, Tom Kern served successfully as Library Director through planning and completion of the transformational renovations of the library’s interior and front plaza in 2015 and 2019, respectively; and

**WHEREAS, Tom Kern served successfully as Library Director through his enthusiastic involvement with the North Suburban Library System (NSLS), the Reaching Across Illinois Libraries System (RAILS), the American Library Association (ALA), and the Illinois Library Association (ILA), always eager to participate in the sharing and exchange of ideas with his colleagues; and**

**WHEREAS, Tom Kern served successfully as Library Director by applying his broad knowledge of the latest library technology, transforming the Wauconda Area Library to a library that is exemplary in its use of automation and technology while providing personable service for all library patrons; and**

**WHEREAS, Tom Kern served successfully as Library Director by working with his management team and library staff through the transformation of the library's organizational structure and culture, eliminating departmental barriers, empowering and encouraging all library staff to work well together as a team, and enriching the job of each employee through more frequent, effective training and communication; and**

**WHEREAS, Tom Kern served successfully as Library Director through sound financial management of all library district funds, and through grant awards and gifts totaling more than \$1.2 million; and**

**WHEREAS, Tom Kern served successfully as Library Director by always focusing on the library's future, rather than its past successes; and**

**WHEREAS, throughout his tenure as Library Director, Tom Kern carried out his duties in a responsive, astute, enthusiastic, and conscientious manner while representing, working with, and regularly reporting to the Board of Library Trustees; and**

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Wauconda Area Library Board of Trustees honors and commemorates Tom Kern for his many years of public service and for the distinguished and respectful manner in which he performed his duties to benefit the library district citizens and users of the Wauconda Area Library; and**

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Library Trustees thanks Tom Kern for his years of dedicated service—no single person has helped shape the Wauconda Area Library over the last two and a half decades more than Tom Kern. The Board of Library Trustees wishes him all the best in his retirement.**

**Adopted by the Wauconda Area Public Library District Board of Library Trustees  
September 9, 2019**

**(Signed)  
William Pankey  
President  
Board of Library Trustees  
Wauconda Area Public Library District**

**(Signed)  
Rebecca Coolidge  
Secretary  
Board of Library Trustees  
Wauconda Area Public Library District**