

MINUTES

OCPL Board of Trustees' Meeting
October 15, 2025
Central Library, Board Room
4:00 p.m.

ATTENDING

M. Bilbo Coughlin	E. Kochian
S. Edelstein	B. Lane
E. Gonzalez	T. Mulvey
E. James Mbuqe	

ABSENT

D. Dixie	J. Hurst-Wahl
L. Dyer	M. Mahar

ALSO PRESENT

M. Foster	A. Schiavulli
A. Perrine	S. Tucker
S. Rorer	

WELCOME

Mr. Edelstein called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No Public Comment

CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Kochian moved the consent agenda, which includes the minutes from the September 17, 2025 meeting.

Mr. Mulvey seconded; motion passed unanimously.

PRESENTATION

Outreach Presentation – B. Maggie Foster

Ms. Foster gave a very informative presentation on improving accessibility to our libraries. She explained that she focuses on target populations that do not find the library to be easily accessible. The state has targeted those populations as those in need of extended services to ensure that if they can't get into the library, the library can get to them. Some ways of reaching those populations are outreach events as well as working with member libraries and partners to improve services. She gave a fun demonstration of the button maker machine and made buttons for Board members as well as answered any questions they had.

DISCUSSION

Executive Director Updates

Ms. Perrine gave her report as well as updates on items she is focusing on.

- Coaching – Ms. Perrine has had her second session. She talked about a new format for her Board report and felt her coach has offered invaluable suggestions and strategies so far. He has offered to meet with some board members and attend a board meeting as well as an Admin meeting.
- Working on identifying and resolving issues – Talking to staff, being transparent, working on communication.
- Establishing boundaries
- Trustee Advisory Council (TAC) Meeting coming up on Tuesday, Oct. 21st at Fayetteville Free Library at 5:30pm. Ms. Perrine invited the board.
- First Manager's Retreat – Ms. Perrine thanked the board for sponsoring it. Ms. James Mbuqe spoke on Storytelling, Ms. Dragon from NYLA spoke on Emotional Intelligence. Ms. Donohue and Ms. Brisco from the County spoke on benefits and general HR subjects. The program concluded with "Ask Amanda Anything" manager edition generating some great discussion.
- Outreach Table at FOCL lectures – Will be a regular outreach event for the library moving forward.
- Meeting with FOCL – To take place within the next few months to discuss Finances/fundraising/merchandise and the libraries relationship with FOCL.
- September was National Library Card Sign-up month.
- Banned Books Week was October 5-11, 2025
- OCPL on Tik Tok/Instagram – Hitting some teen, 20 and early 30-year-old audiences which are the hardest demographic to get in libraries.

Policy Committee

Mr. Edelstein spoke about how the Board reviews policies. He mentioned that Ms. Perrine had previously suggested that the review process be streamlined. The proposal is to get a committee together to work with Ms. Perrine and team, review the policies then bring it to the Board to approve. Mr. Edelstein asked for volunteers.

FOCL Updates

Ms. Tucker spoke about the FOCL lecture series. The first lecture of the series was by author, Robert Dugoni in September, which went very well. She thanked the Board members who were able to attend. The next author is Percival Everett on Oct. 20, 2025. Ms. Tucker passed around some bookmarks featuring the authors and their lecture dates.

Important Board Months

Mr. Edelstein spoke about attendance at Board meetings and the slate of officers. Ms. Perrine talked about items that need to be voted on during specific months and why it's important to be in attendance during those months to meet the required quorum number. The Board members were asked to send in their availability for those months. Ms. Perrine also invited the Board to give Mr. Edelstein their thoughts on how many libraries to go to next year for their Board meetings.

Mr. Kochian gave some interesting facts about Friends Reading that was established in 1922.

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution: 25-41

(Withdrawn)

Resolved, That the OCPL Board of Trustees approves the revised OCPL Work Attire Guidelines Policy.

This motion has been withdrawn due to the need for more discussion and revisions. This policy will be brought back for a vote on a later date.

Resolution: 25-42

Mr. Kochian moved the following resolution:

Resolved, That the OCPL Board of Trustees approves the grant application submission for a CLRC Catalyst Grant for Mundy Branch for \$1,500. The funds will go towards a new outreach program with Huntington Family Center.

Ms. Perrine gave a brief explanation of the grant.

Ms. Bilbo Coughlin seconded; motion passed unanimously.

Resolution: 25-43

Ms. Lane moved the following resolution:

Resolved, That the OCPL Board of Trustees approves the grant application submission for a TNT Special Project Request by the Onondaga County Public Library for Hazard Branch for \$350. The funds will go towards Hazard's popular monthly Take and Bake Kits.

Ms. Perrine gave a brief explanation of the grant.

Ms. James Mbuqe seconded; motion passed unanimously.

Resolution: 25-44

Mr. Mulvey moved the following resolution:

Resolved, That the OCPL Board of Trustees approves the grant application submission for a TNT Special Project Request by the Onondaga County Public Library for Hazard Branch for \$200. The funds will go towards Hazard's 2026 Quick Bites programs.

Ms. Lane seconded; motion passed unanimously.

Resolution: 25-45

Ms. Lane moved the following resolution:

Resolved, That the OCPL Board of Trustees approves the grant application submission for a CLRC Catalyst Grant for Betts Branch for \$2000. The funds will go towards a new “Level Up @ Betts Library” project to enhance community engagement with young people at the library through interactive gaming.

Ms. Perrine gave a brief description of how the grant would be used.

Ms. Bilbo Coughlin seconded; motion passed unanimously.

MOTION

Resolution: 25-46

Mr. Mulvey moved the following resolution:

Resolved, That the OCPL Board of Trustees authorizes the chair to send to any member that has not complied in this calendar year with our attendance requirements, a notification and reminder of those requirements pursuant to our bylaws.

A short discussion followed.

Mr. Kochian seconded; motion passed unanimously

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Mulvey moved to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Lane seconded.

Mr. Edelstein adjourned the meeting at 5:09 p.m.

Respectively Submitted,

Sharon Rorer
Administrative Assistant

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Beauchamp Branch * Betts Branch * Hazard Branch * Mundy Branch
Paine Branch * Petit Branch * Soule Branch * White Branch