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MINUTES
OCPL Board of Trustees' Meeting
October 21, 2026
Central Library, Board Room
4:00 p.m.

ATTENDING	L. Dyer	E. Kochian
	S. Edelstein	M. Mahar
	J. Hurst-Wahl	T. Mulvey
	E. James Mbque	J. Reidy
ABSENT	M. Bilbo Coughlin*	B. Lane**
	D. Dixie**	
ALSO PRESENT	R. Gilbert	S. Rorer
	K. Kleinhans Lighton	A. Schiavulli
	A. Perrine	S. Tucker

WELCOME Mr. Edelstein called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT No Public Comment

CONSENT AGENDA Mr. Kochian moved the consent agenda, which includes the minutes from the September 16, 2026 meeting.

Ms. James Mbque seconded;

There was a short discussion regarding ordering of discussion vs. motion.

Motion passed unanimously.

*Excused Absence
**Unexcused Absence

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution: 26-44

Ms. Hurst-Wahl moved the following resolution:

Resolved, That the OCPL Board of Trustees approves to authorize the expenditure of $80 from Board Unrestricted Funds for an ongoing subscription to QuickBooks On-Line that will auto renew each year.

Ms. James Mbque seconded; motion passed unanimously.

Resolution: 26-45

Ms. James Mbque moved the following resolution:

Resolved, That the OCPL Board of Trustees approves the Financial Policy for Staff.

Ms. Hurst-Wahl seconded; motion passed unanimously.

Resolution: 26-46

Mr. Kochian moved the following resolution:

Resolved, That the OCPL Board of Trustees approves the revised OCPL Board of Trustees Education Policy.

Ms. Hurst-Wahl seconded;

Ms. Hurst-Wahl summarized the updates.

Motion passed unanimously.

Resolution: 26-47

Ms. James Mbque moved the following resolution:

Resolved, That the OCPL Board of Trustees approves the revised OCPL Social Media Policy.

Mr. Kochian seconded;

Ms. Hurst-Wahl detailed the revisions.

Motion passed unanimously.

Resolution: 26-48

Mr. Kochian moved the following resolution:

Resolved, That the OCPL Board of Trustees approves the Memorandum of Understanding for the OCPL: City.

Ms. Hurst-Wahl seconded;

Ms. Perrine defined the scope and purpose of the document which has a five-year review and update cycle. There is an MOU committee currently in place with Ms. Bilbo Coughlin as a member. Mr. Edelstein thanked Ms. Bilbo Coughlin for her work on the MOU. Overall, people are happy that the system is working well. Mr. Edelstein reflected on what the system offers to the member libraries and suggested sharing this information with the County Executive's office or the Legislature. The Government Relations Committee will talk about this next month at their meeting.

Motion passed unanimously.

Resolution: 26-49

Mr. Mulvey moved the following resolution:

Resolved, That the OCPL Board of Trustees approves the Memorandum of Understanding for the OCPL: System.

Mr. Kochian seconded; motion passed unanimously.

Resolution: 26-50

Mr. Kochian moved the following resolution:

Resolved, That the OCPL Board of Trustees approves the 2027 Legal Holiday Calendar as proclaimed by County Executive J. Ryan McMahon II to be observed in accordance with present Federal and New York State Law and Library Closings as follows:

New Year's Day	Friday	January 1
Martin Luther King	Monday	January 18
Lincoln's Birthday*	Friday	February 12
Washington's Birthday	Monday	February 15
Memorial Day	Monday	May 31
Juneteenth	Friday	June 18 (Observed)
Independence Day	Monday	July 5 (Observed)
Labor Day	Monday	September 6
Columbus Day*	Monday	October 11
Veterans Day	Thursday	November 11
Thanksgiving Day	Thursday	November 25
Day After Thanksgiving	Friday	November 26
Christmas Day	Friday	December 24 (Observed)

*Lincoln's Birthday and Columbus Day will be observed as floating holidays for all non-institutional personnel. All county departments that are scheduled to be open on February 12 will remain open for business as well as on Monday, October 11.

Library Closings

Saturdays		Sundays	
May 29	Memorial Day Weekend	March 28	Easter
July 3	Independence Day Weekend	May 30	Mem. Day Weekend
September 4	Labor Day Weekend	June 20, 27	Summer
December 25	Christmas	July 4, 11, 18, 25	Summer
		August 1, 8, 15, 22, 29	Summer

September 5	Labor Day Weekend
December 26	Day after Christmas

Evenings (facilities close at 5 p.m.)
Wednesday, November 24 Thanksgiving Eve

Other
Friday, May 7 Staff Development Day

Mr. Mulvey seconded;

Ms. Perrine noted that New Year's Day 2028 is observed on Friday, December 31, 2027.

Motion passed unanimously.

DISCUSSION

Executive Director Updates
Ms. Perrine gave highlights from her report.

Petit Community Room –OCPL is still waiting for updates on next steps for construction. Ms. Perrine will keep the Board posted.

Security – Good News**:** In the month of September, two branch libraries and Central had no security incidents. White Branch incidents went way down due to the armed security guard on site and the juvenile probation officer that comes by.

Mundy Branch – Incidents are way up. Ms. Perrine gave some statistics on the neighborhood including median age, income levels, and available schools. She spoke about the impact of mental and physical stressors that kids in the neighborhood experience which can contribute to disruptive conduct in the library and additionally how this affects the library staff.

Needed from the Board:

- Visit the City libraries
- Ask hard questions, ask for data and reports, read information sent
- Read the Urban Library Trauma Study
- Identify relevant organizations or people to reach out to
- Talk to County Legislators or City Common Councilors about the following issues:
    - Need more staff
    - Need more security
    - Need more money for training
    - Need more money for programming
- Approve staff training request for funding
- Ideas for staff mental and physical safety
- Support Ms. Perrine – words of affirmation are much appreciated

The Board discussed the Syracuse Police Department response to emergency calls and possibly contacting the mayor's office.

OCPL is working with the school district but mainly with librarians and teachers. Ms. Perrine would like to arrange a meeting with the Superintendent.

Ms. Gilbert spoke about her past tenure at Mundy. She would like to build a closer relationship with the SRO's (School Resource Officer) in the school district. She felt it would be helpful for OCPL, the Syracuse Police Department and the schools to have shared understanding.

Ms. Perrine will send Mr. Edelstein a compiled list of ideas and how the board can support them.

Mr. Edelstein thanked Ms. Perrine for her leadership.

New Trustee Training – Ms. Perrine passed out folders with information and resources from the recent New Trustee Training.

Slate of Officers – If any board member is interested in being an officer, please let Mr. Edelstein know. The vote will be in December.

Committee Reports

- Policy Committee – Ms. Hurst-Wahl spoke about what the committee has been working on. They are continuing to write and review policies and reports. She would like to see some board members trained in Open Meeting Law.

- Finance Committee – Mr. Mulvey confirmed the next Finance Committee Meeting will be October 28, 2026 at 9:00 a.m. in the Central Library.

- Government Relations Committee – Ms. James Mbque gave a brief overview of the committee's recent activities. Mr. Kochian attended the recent County Budget meeting. The committee will attend the next Legislative session in November and speak during the public comment.

FOCL – Sara Tucker gave some information on FOCL activities.

- Attended the Fourth Wing Night at Syracuse Crunch. Raffled off Abby Jimenez tickets. Her lecture is on October 27, 2026.
- Kevin Young – Author for November. The board was invited to attend.
- Holiday Gathering Fundraiser – December 7, 2026, at The Mizpah 5:00-8:00 p.m. They will also be doing a book swap.

The Board thanked FOCL for their donation to OCPL. Ms. Tucker passed out FOCL stickers for the Board members.

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Hurst-Wahl moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Mulvey seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Edelstein adjourned the meeting at 5:11 p.m.

Respectively Submitted,

Sharon Rorer
Administrative Assistant