

MINUTES

OCPL Board of Trustees' Meeting

April 15, 2026

Central Library, Board Room

4:00 p.m.

ATTENDING

M. Bilbo Coughlin
L. Dyer
S. Edelstein
J. Hurst-Wahl

E. James Mbuqe
E. Kochian
M. Mahar
T. Mulvey

ABSENT

D. Dixie

B. Lane

ALSO PRESENT

R. Battelle
R. Gilbert
A. Perrine

S. Rorer
A. Schiavulli
S. Tucker

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 March 18, 2026 meeting.

Ms. James Mbuqe seconded; motion passed unanimously.

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution: 26-17

Ms. Bilbo Coughlin moved the following resolution:

Resolved, That the OCPL Board of Trustees accepts the grant funds of \$6000 from the Literacy Coalition for a 2026 Literacy Champion Grant at Beauchamp, Betts, Mundy, and White Branch Libraries to go towards a pilot Summer Book Buddies program at OCPL.

Mr. Mulvey seconded; motion passed unanimously.

Resolution: 26-18

Ms. Hurst-Wahl moved the following resolution:

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

A short discussion followed.

Ms. Bilbo Coughlin seconded; motion passed unanimously.

Resolution: 26-19

Mr. Kochian moved the following resolution:

Resolved, That the OCPL Board of Trustees approves the following expenditure from the Unrestricted Board Designated Fund: \$3330 for the 2026 NYLA organizational membership (\$3000) and the Library Trustee Group (\$330), which provides membership to OCPL Board of Trustees.

Ms. Dyer seconded; motion passed unanimously.

DISCUSSION

Executive Director Updates

Ms. Perrine gave highlights from her report, including plans to bring ideas to the Government Relations Committee regarding partnership with the County. Quarter 1 statistics were noted.

Security at Central and Branches

Ms. Perrine reported on security at Central and branch libraries, including development of an updated security plan for Central Library and related policy, training, and operational considerations. The discussion included resource needs, County partnership, and possible additional supports for Central Library, including social work support. Mr. Edelstein requested a follow-up plan outlining what a secure Central Library would look like and asked that it be shared with him and Cydney Johnson, Deputy County Executive for Physical Services.

Petit Community Room – Next Steps

An update was provided on the Petit Community Room project, including the status of the construction grant timeline, ongoing project cost development, and next steps in the quote and RFP process. Possible extension of the grant period and other contingency options were discussed. Additional guidance from the County and State is pending. Ms. Perrine will continue to update the Board.

Board President Updates – Quarter 2 Priorities

Mr. Edelstein thanked the Board and Committees for their work and invited feedback as part of the Board governance review. The Board discussed ongoing policy work, including state-mandated policies that must be completed by December 2026.

The MOU, System Plan of Service, Central Plan of Service, and Free and Direct Access Plan were discussed as Quarter 2 priorities. Ms. Perrine stated the goal is to complete these by June 30, with the Plans of Service taking priority due to State requirements. These items will be presented to the Board for approval before submission to the State.

The Board also discussed strategic plan alignment, including the need for regular updates on progress and prioritization. Executive leadership development and alignment were noted as follow-up from Ms. Perrine's annual review.

Committee Reports

- Policy Committee – The next Policy Committee meeting will be May 4th.
- Finance Committee – Mr. Mulvey noted the Finance Committee will be meeting next week on April 22nd. Representatives from the Community Foundation will be there to give an alternative proposal on managing the investment account.
- Government Relations Committee – No report.
- Executive Committee – Last month the committee completed Ms. Perrine's annual review.

FOCL Updates – Sara Tucker

Ms. Tucker provided updates on FOCL activities, including next year's author sign-up, season subscriptions, and advertising and sponsorship opportunities. She also invited Board members to attend the Sports Romance Night fundraiser with the Mets on April 17. Ms. Tucker noted the recent lecture by Jodi Kantor as part of the lecture series.

OTHER

Status on Vacancies – An update was provided regarding the vacant Board seat. A candidate has been identified, and the appointment will go to the County Legislature for a vote. Mr. Edelstein will keep the Board updated.

Unexcused Absences – The Board discussed a prior resolution and the bylaws regarding unexcused absences.

Trustee Advisory Committee Event – The Trustee Advisory Committee event will be hosted at the East Syracuse Free Library on April 28 at 5:00 p.m.

Website – Ms. Perrine provided an update on the website reconstruction. Several drafts have been reviewed, and Fall was identified as a possible completion timeframe.

Mr. Kochian noted that he had written a letter of support for the new Skaneateles Library building project.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Mulvey moved to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Hurst-Wahl seconded.

Mr. Edelstein adjourned the meeting at 5:19 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