

MINUTES

OCPL Board of Trustees' Meeting
June 17, 2026
Central Library, Board Room
4:00 p.m.

ATTENDING

M. Bilbo Coughlin	J. Hurst-Wahl
L. Dyer	E. James Mbuqe
S. Edelstein	M. Mahar

ABSENT

D. Dixie**	B. Lane*
E. Kochian*	T. Mulvey*

ALSO PRESENT

M. Carter	C. Radin
D. Dell	S. Rorer
R. Gilbert	S. Tucker
V. Massulik	Y. Williams
A. Perrine	

WELCOME

Mr. Edelstein called the meeting to order at 4:28 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Radin, Librarian at Dr. Weeks Elementary School, gave a short presentation on the programs and work that he and the students have been able to do in collaboration with the Syracuse Northeast Community Center Library, a satellite of White Branch Library. His goals are to get every student a library card, more school visits, more afterschool programs and would like to see expanded service at the Syracuse Northeast Community Center Library. He answered questions from the Board.

CONSENT AGENDA

Ms. James Mbuqe moved the consent agenda, which includes the amended minutes from the May 20, 2026 meeting.

A discussion followed regarding the shorter version of the minutes.

Ms. Bilbo Coughlin seconded; motion passed unanimously.

*Excused Absence
**Unexcused Absence

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution: 26-24

Ms. Hurst-Wahl moved the following resolution:

Resolved, That the OCPL Board of Trustees approves the submission of the 2026 State Annual Reports for the Onondaga County Public Library: for Public and Association Libraries and the Onondaga County Public Library: for Public Library Systems.

A short discussion followed.

Ms. Bilbo Coughlin seconded; motion passed unanimously.

Resolution: 26-25

Ms. Bilbo Coughlin moved the following resolution:

Resolved, That the OCPL Board of Trustees approves the grant application submission for a Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) Grant for the library system. The budget for this grant will be \$20,000. If awarded, funding will go towards purchasing Instant Language Assistant (ILA) software through TranslateLive to better assist patrons who do not speak English fluently.

Ms. Perrine gave a brief overview of the grant and the ILA software.

Ms. James Mbuque seconded; motion passed unanimously.

Resolution: 26-26

Ms. Dyer moved the following resolution:

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

Ms. Hurst-Wahl seconded; motion passed unanimously.

Resolution: 26-27

Ms. Bilbo Coughlin moved the following resolution:

Resolved, That the OCPL Board of Trustees approves the grant application submission for a Tomorrow's Neighborhood Today (TNT) Mini Grant for Hazard Branch Library. The budget for this grant will be \$330. If awarded, funding will go towards 2027 Adult Take and Bake Kits.

A short discussion followed.

Ms. Dyer seconded; motion passed unanimously.

Resolution: 26-28

Ms. James Mbuque moved the following resolution:

Resolved, That the OCPL Board of Trustees approves the grant application submission for a Tomorrow's Neighborhood Today (TNT) Mini Grant for Hazard Branch Library. The budget for this grant will be \$100. If awarded, funding will go towards the 2027 Quick Bites Program.

A short discussion followed.

Ms. Hurst-Wahl seconded; motion passed unanimously.

PRESENTATION

Website Updates – Dr. Dane Dell

Dr. Dell gave his presentation before the board meeting was formally called to order. He spoke on the progress of the website redesign. The Discovery & Planning phase as well as the Website Design phase has been completed. The Development phase is in process. Dr. Dell presented a power point showing the website and mobile version design. A mobile app is also in the works. Estimate for completion is Fall. Dr. Dell answered questions from the Board at the end of his presentation. The Board requested another update as launch gets closer and also asked about metrics to measure success.

DISCUSSION

Executive Director Updates

Ms. Perrine gave highlights from her report after formal adjournment of the meeting.

Petit Community Room

In partnership with other departments within the County government, OCPL is waiting for updates on next steps for construction. Each week, an update from OCPL is distributed to the working group.

Central Security

Still in the 90-Day trial for extra guards. A meeting has been set in August for review.

White Branch

Has a second CET. Would like extra guards to stay on in 2027.

Social Media

Videos have gone viral. People are watching the videos and checking out our profile.

Grant Writing

Working through Member Services to increase the grant writing skills of staff.

Outreach Events

Staff Day

Spring on the Hill

Emergent LeadFORWARD Retreat

Pride Parade

FOCL Donation

FOCL has reported they would make a donation to OCPL to be accepted at a future meeting. OCPL is considering where it would prioritize placing the funding, including quilting and poster machines.

Advocacy Moment

Summer Reading starts the last week of June. The city branches are doing Reading Dragons Cards this year. There will be a starter pack of 3 cards and incentives to earn more cards. This was originally created by Dover Public Library.

Forthcoming

OCPL Passport Program coming in September featuring collectible trading cards. Each library will have their own unique cards to hand out to patrons that visit their library. It will have a photo, a fun fact, and their website on it. There will be additional special cards to collect at outreach events.

Administrator for Public Services (René Battelle's former position)
Changing the position to Administrator for Branches and Administrator for Central. Ms. Gilbert will be the Administrator for Branches with a continued focus on security. The Administrator for Central will have a focus on project management and operations of large-scale projects in the city. Interviews are being conducted for the Central Administrator.

FOCL – Sara Tucker

Finding Gobi coming to Central Library August 1st for Storytime.

Committee Reports - held due to time constraints

- Policy Committee – No report.
- Finance Committee – No report.
- Government Relations Committee – No report.
- Executive Committee – No report.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Mr. Edelstein adjourned the meeting at 5:00 p.m.

Respectively Submitted,

Sharon Rorer
Administrative Assistant

Central Library located at 447 South Salina Street, Syracuse, NY 13202-2494
Phone 315-435-1900 Fax 315-435-8533 www.onlib.org Amanda Perrine, Executive Director

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