

MINUTES

OCPL Board of Trustees' Meeting
September 16, 2026
Central Library, Board Room
4:00 p.m.

ATTENDING

M. Bilbo Coughlin	E. Kochian
S. Edelstein	B. Lane
J. Hurst-Wahl	J. Reidy
E. James Mbque	

ABSENT

D. Dixie**	M. Mahar*
L. Dyer*	T. Mulvey*

ALSO PRESENT

M. Carter	S. Rorer
R. Gilbert	A. Schiavulli
K. Kleinhans Lighton	A. Snyder
V. Massulik	S. Tucker
A. Perrine (by phone)	T. Walters

WELCOME

Mr. Edelstein called the meeting to order at 4:03 p.m.
John Reidy, our newest board member, introduced himself and shared some of his background.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No Public Comment

CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Kochian moved the consent agenda, which includes the minutes from the July 15, 2026 meeting.

Ms. Lane seconded; motion passed unanimously.

*Excused Absence

**Unexcused Absence

MOTION

Resolution 26-43

Ms. Lane made the following motion.

Resolved, That the OCPL Board of Trustees approves \$800 cash withdrawal for petty cash funds for the Petit Library book sale.

A short discussion followed.

Mr. Kochian seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously.

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution: 26-34

Ms. Lane moved the following resolution:

Resolved, That the OCPL Board of Trustees approves the System Plan of Service as the OCPL City Board.

A short discussion followed regarding connection to strategic pathways and being explicit on outcomes. Ms. Perrine thanked Ms. Schiavulli for all her hard work.

M. Kochian seconded; motion passed unanimously.

Resolution: 26-35

Ms. Bilbo Coughlin moved the following resolution:

Resolved, That the OCPL Board of Trustees approves the Free and Direct Access Plan as the OCPL City Board.

Ms. Hurst-Wahl seconded; motion passed unanimously.

Resolution: 26-36

Ms. Hurst-Wahl moved the following resolution:

Resolved, That the OCPL Board of Trustees approves the System Plan of Service as the System Board.

Ms. Bilbo Coughlin seconded; motion passed unanimously.

Resolution: 26-37

Ms. Lane moved the following resolution:

Resolved, That the OCPL Board of Trustees approves the Free and Direct Access Plan as the System Board.

Mr. Kochian seconded; motion passed unanimously.

Resolution: 26-38

Ms. Bilbo Coughlin moved the following resolution:

Resolved, That the OCPL Board of Trustees approves the Central Plan of Service as the System Board.

Ms. James Mbque seconded; motion passed unanimously.

Resolution: 26-39

Ms. Bilbo Coughlin moved the following resolution:

Resolved, That the OCPL Board of Trustees approves the Justification Guidelines for NYS Construction Aid.

A short discussion followed. Ms. Schiavulli answered questions from the Board.

Mr. Kochian seconded; motion passed unanimously.

Resolution: 26-40

Ms. Hurst-Wahl moved the following resolution:

Resolved, that the OCPL Board of Trustees recommends the application for \$27,466 from the New York State \$44 Million Construction Aid Program FY2026-2032 for Fairmount Community Library for FCL Rising Together project, be it further

Resolved, that the OCPL Board of Trustees recommends the application for \$27,000 from the New York State \$44 Million Construction Aid Program FY2026-2032 for the Fayetteville Free Library for the Modernization of Fire Detection System, be it further

Resolved, that the OCPL Board of Trustees recommends the application for \$8,919 from the New York State \$44 Million Construction Aid Program FY2026-2032 for Liverpool Public Library for Parking Garage Lighting Upgrade project, be it further

Resolved, that the OCPL Board of Trustees recommends the application for \$88,218 from the New York State \$44 Million Construction Aid Program FY2026-2032 for Marcellus Free Library for Complete Roof Replacement project, be it further

Resolved, that the OCPL Board of Trustees recommends the application for \$63,670 from the New York State \$44 Million Construction Aid Program FY2026-2032 for Maxwell Memorial Library for Replacement of Fire Alarm System and Library Sign, be it further

Resolved, that the OCPL Board of Trustees recommends the application for \$191,126 from the New York State \$44 Million Construction Aid Program FY2026-2032 for Northern Onondaga Public Library Cicero for Public Library Restroom Renovation, be it further

Resolved, that the OCPL Board of Trustees recommends the application for \$275,015 from the New York State \$44 Million Construction Aid Program FY2026-2032 for Onondaga County Public Library Central Library Security Access Control project, be it further

Resolved, that the OCPL Board of Trustees recommends the application for \$706,843 from the New York State \$44 Million Construction Aid Program FY2026-2032 for Skaneateles Library Association for New Construction: Doors, windows, millwork, elevator & fire suppression project

Allocation: \$1,388,257
Recommended: 100%

A short discussion followed. Ms. Perrine answered questions from the Board.

Ms. Bilbo Coughlin seconded; motion passed unanimously.

Resolution: 26-41

Ms. Lane moved the following resolution:

Resolved, That the OCPL Board of Trustees approves the following expenditure from funds held in the Unrestricted Board Designated Fund for fiscal year 2027: Up to \$5,000 for 2027 System Retreat expenditures.

A short discussion followed.

Mr. Kochian seconded; motion passed unanimously.

Resolution: 26-42

Ms. Lane moved the following resolution:

Resolved, That the OCPL Board of Trustees approves to support the expenditure up to \$1000 from the Unrestricted Board Designated Fund to cover catering and food vouchers for 25 staff members to attend the OCPL Librarian III Retreat which will take place at the Salt City Market in October. This will be a full day of training with representatives from EAP and Personnel.

A short discussion followed. Ms. Perrine answered questions from the Board.

Ms. James Mbque seconded; motion passed unanimously.

DISCUSSION

Executive Director Updates

Ms. Gilbert gave updates on behalf of Ms. Perrine who was unable to attend in person.

Passport Program – Launched Sept. 8th. A fun way to bring patrons to all 32 libraries in the County to receive collectable trading cards and a passport sticker to complete their passport.

Quilting Machine – Has been delivered and set up in the Makerspace.

LSTA Grant -Translation Devices are coming soon. These will be helpful at outreach events where language services are needed.

Ms. Bilbo Coughlin thanked the whole team for all their hard work.

Ms. Mbque expressed her approval of the report's format.

A short discussion followed regarding security issues at White Branch and what is being done to secure the library and neighborhood with police and security guards as well as allocation of funding for extra security guards for the rest of 2026 and for 2027.

Petit Community Room – In partnership with other departments within the County government, OCPL is still waiting for updates on next steps for construction and is working on securing additional funding.

Committee Reports

- Policy Committee – Ms. Hurst-Wahl brought three policies for 1st Consideration to the Board.

OCPL Financial Policy for Staff

The employees of the Library will comply with Onondaga County's financial policies.

OCPL Trustee Education Policy

A short discussion took place. The Trustee Bylaws will be reviewed regarding trainings.

OCPL Social Media Policy

A short discussion followed regarding appropriate verbiage for responses to removed comments.

Feedback/suggestions can be sent to Ms. Hurst-Wahl or Mr. Edelstein.

Policies will be brought back next month for a vote.

- Finance Committee – Ms. Lane gave highlights from the Finance Committee Meeting.
 - 990 Tax Document – Extension was filed. Next Finance Committee meeting Oct. 28, 2026 to discuss the 990.
 - Operating Budget approval timeline – Should be ready for Board approval next month.
 - Grant Record Keeping – Will be creating a policy.
 - Employee Reimbursements – Board does not need to review in detail. Several levels of review already in place.

- Government Relations Committee – Ms. James Mbque gave a brief overview of the committee’s recent activities.
 - Attended the meeting of the County Legislature in July. Spoke about Summer Reading during the Public Comment period which was well received. Would like to continue attending Legislative meetings to keep them informed on library programs and services.

Will be attending the next Ways and Means Committee meeting.

FOCL – Sara Tucker gave some information on FOCL activities.

- FOCL Author Series Season 32 - Gary Shteyngart is the first author in the series starting Sept. 29th. Ms. Tucker brought bookmarks and posters for the Board.
- Gobi event - August 1st for children and adults. Over 100 people attended.
- Working on building out a donation page on the FOCL website highlighting what funds are used for. Will be spotlighting the quilting machine and invited the Board for a group photo.
- Author selection for Season 33 has started.
- Ms. Tucker introduced Martha Mulroy, FOCL Board President. Ms. Mulroy gave a brief outline of her goals for FOCL. She thanked the Board for all their hard work.

OTHER

Ms. Hurst-Wahl introduced Andrea Snyder, Director of Skaneateles Library. Ms. Snyder gave some updates on the Skaneateles Library building project. Most of the funding has been secured. An obstacle was encountered in the approval process. The application will be resubmitted to the planning board next month. It will take 8 to 9 months for approvals then 18 months of construction. Date of completion will be 2028

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Kochian moved to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Bilbo Coughlin seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Edelstein adjourned the meeting at 5:15 p.m.

Respectively Submitted,

Sharon Rorer
Administrative Assistant

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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