

The Board of Trustees of Teaneck Public Library

Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of the Board of Trustees

March 5, 2026

Call to Order, Attendance

Call to order at 7:00 PM with the reading of the latest iteration of Section 5A of the Open Public Meetings Act, indicating that adequate notice of the meeting had been provided by way of an annual meeting schedule posted in the Library and on the Library's website, in the *Bergen Record*, *Teaneck Patch*, *The Jewish Link*, and *The Jewish Standard*, and in the Town Clerk's office.

Sunshine Notice: This meeting is being held in accordance with Public Law - 1975 Chapter 231, the Open Public Meetings Act, also known as the "Sunshine Law." The adequate notice of the meeting, including the date, time, and place of the meeting, has been provided.

Trustees Present: Benjy Burnat, President; Paul Ostrow, Treasurer; Myron Chaitovsky, Secretary; Sandra Silverberg; Seleene Lewis Wong, Mayor's Representative.

Also Present: Shinae Hyun, Library Director.

Absent: Keisha Carter, Vice President; Evalyn Brownstein; Chondra Young; Dr. Andre Spencer, Superintendent; Karen Orgen, Council Member.

Minutes

Upon motion by Sandi Silverberg (Paul Ostrow, second), the minutes of the Board's February 2026 meeting were accepted without objection.

Friends Report

Sandi Silverberg, President of the Friends, reported:

- Inclement weather and subsequent Library closings meant that Friends-sponsored programming is now in a catch-up phase. The film, *Thelma*, cancelled due to snow, is now rescheduled for March 8. Another film, *Hard Times*, will be shown at the end of March. The concert that was scheduled for Martin Luther King Jr. Day/Black History Month has been rescheduled for April 12.
- After much study, The Friends determined that they will not be funding passes for the Metropolitan Museum of Art at this time, nor was there any possibility of partnering with another library at this time. The Friends are considering financing passes for the Whitney and/or the *Neue Galerie*.

Treasurer's Report

Upon motion by Myron Chaitovsky (Sandi Silverberg, second), the Treasurer's Report was accepted without objection.

Director's Report

Director Shinae Hyun reported

1. The Library presented a four- part *Black History Month lecture series* in February exploring Black history, culture, and community impact. Presentations included lectures on slavery in New Jersey, the influence of music on Black History, the history and contributions of Black churches in Bergen County, and a moderated discussion on diversity and professional sports. A *Black History Month Reading Program* in mid-February was successful, with participants enjoying stories crafts and displays.
2. A *Winter Reading Challenge* with an Olympic theme ended in February with 86 participants reading a total of 23,724 minutes. 33 participants earned gold medals, but a closing ceremony had to be rescheduled due to snow closure.
3. Despite the weather and the cancellation of several programs, attendance at other programs remained steady, and the programs that were held generated positive feedback. *Friends Friday programs* included one on Princess Diana and another on Gustav Klimt. A *Mixed Media Collage workshop* had to be rescheduled due to the illness of the presenter; it is planned for June. A popular *Ceramics Workshop* had 12 participants who created decorative bowls to be glazed and fired for later pickup. An ESL class was relaunched yesterday with a revised format. It meets Wednesday mornings
4. A *Family Trivia Program* had a smaller-than-anticipated turnout, despite a waiting list, but those who attended had a wonderful time and were very enthusiastic. *Pokémon Club* held its first

meeting and drew both ardent longtime fans and new participants. The club was established via a partnership between the American Library Association and the Pokémon Company International. A *Book Tasting Program* for children, intended to inspire children ages 6 to 11 to read new books and genres, was launched. Participants sampled librarian-curated selections at a variety of reading levels and genres, enjoyed a treat, and discovered new favorites.

5. *Adult Services* created a display to highlight the burgeoning *Romantasy* genre - in time for Valentine's Day.
6. The Library purchased charging blocks and chargers making them available for in-house use; and our new payment kiosk has finally been installed and updated.
7. A new color copier has been installed, offering both black and white and color copy options and scanning features with cash or credit card payment options
8. The Library also purchased *Deep Freeze* software from Faronics to manage the laptops that are used by patrons in the computer classes,
9. *The Spring Newsletter* is ready for distribution and staff is now working on summer programs.
10. The Library has a new website which has gone live; the web developer, ionicNET will provide digital ADA compliance training to staff who do calendar and program work.
11. The Director met with RSC Architects to review lower level bathroom and rear storage areas for the next phase of our building renovation. Finishes are being selected, and there is a plan to replace a window in the Children's Room.
12. All full time staff members had a meeting with their supervisors, setting goals for 2026. This was an opportunity to review their work and discuss achievements, challenges, and plans for continued growth.

New Business

The Director presented a revised Auditorium Policy (#26-18) but discussion was tabled until the Trustees have an opportunity to review and comment.

Good and Welfare

Teen Services Librarian Jacqueline Quinn, had her last day on Friday, February 27 and the staff held a farewell breakfast for her on the previous day, allowing morning and afternoon shifts to overlap and participate. The Library is grateful for her years of service and for building our Teen Services from the ground up. The search for a new Teen Librarian has begun and the interview process is now ongoing.

Our Adult Services Technology Librarian, Cara Scott, will be leaving toward the end of March. She has been a dedicated and thoughtful presence here, consistently going above and beyond for patrons. She helped to expand our ESL programming and outreach to senior living facilities, laying important groundwork for future growth. Anne Rolling, who joined us last November as a part-time librarian, will assume the role of ESL Coordinator upon Cara's departure. The position has been posted.

Adjournment

Upon motion by Paul Ostrow (Sandra Silverberg, second), the meeting adjourned at 7:32 PM, with all in favor.

Myron Chaitovsky, Secretary

Prepared by Deborah Young