

# The Board of Trustees of Teaneck Public Library

Minutes of the Special Virtual Board Meeting of the Board of Trustees

(via Google Meet only)

May 14, 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; Keisha Carter, Vice President; Paul Ostrow, Treasurer; Myron Chaitovsky, Secretary; Evalyn Brownstein; Chondra Young; Sandra Silverberg; Seleene Lewis Wong, Mayor's Representative; Dr. Andre Spencer, Superintendent.

Also Present: Shinae Hyun, Library Director.

Absent: Karen Orgen, Council Member.

The only agenda item for this special, emergency meeting was the **Library elevator**, currently (and unexpectedly) out of service.

- The discussion focused on whether we are best advised to repair or replace the current unit.
- It was agreed that repair would prove far less expensive and intrusive than a complete replacement of the original unit.

- The Director consulted Scott Hayes of Hubert H Hayes Inc., who outlined the basic scope of work required for repair - a “punch list” of some 21 steps.
- An additional, optional but recommended, upgrade to the push button and indicator fixtures, including digital LED position indicators in the elevator cab, was also presented.
- The estimated cost for repair, including a one year warranty on materials and labor, is approximately \$90,000, plus an additional \$15,000 for the optional but recommended work.
- The Board President, after consulting with the Township CFO, noted that the Library has available funding to cover this expense.
- The timeline for such repair is approximately four (4) months from when a contractor is selected and approved by the Town Council.
- To what extent this will require a Library shutdown, in whole or in part, is yet to be determined. (The Treasurer suggested that while elevator repair is ongoing, we also move ahead with upgrading the lower level bathrooms to reach ADA compliance, adding that this additional expense would likely require a bonding issue approved by the Township Council.)

Upon motion by Paul Ostrow (Dr. Andre Spencer, second), those present agreed unanimously to proceed with the repair of the elevator. The lower level bathroom upgrade was tabled for further exploration.

### **Adjournment**

Upon motion by Paul Ostrow (Dr. Andre Spencer, second), the meeting adjourned at 7:25 PM, with all in favor.

Myron Chaitovsky

Prepared by Deborah Young