

The Board of Trustees of Teaneck Public Library

Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of the Board of Trustees

June 4, 2026

Call to Order, Attendance

Call to order at 7:01 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; Evalyn Brownstein; Sandra Silverberg; Seleene Lewis Wong, Mayor's Representative.

Also Present: Karen Orgen, Council Member; Shinae Hyun, Library Director.

Absent: Keisha Carter, Vice President; Myron Chaitovsky, Secretary; Chondra Young; Dr. Andre Spencer, Superintendent.

Minutes - May 7 (regular meeting)

Minutes - May 14 (special virtual meeting)

Upon motion by Sandi Silverberg (Paul Ostrow, second), the minutes of both meetings were accepted, with all in favor.

Friends Report

Sandi Silverberg, President of the Friends, reported:

Approved by the Library Board of Trustees on September 3, 2026

- The Friends paid for the elevator consultant for the Library - to better know the issues.
- Thank you for the creativity and flexibility of the Library Director and Head of Adult and Patron Services Jonna Davis - to hold summer concerts in the Library atrium.
 - Quintin Harris is a well known local jazz musician and performs this Sunday.
 - Bryan Charles Wilson, who is from Teaneck and lived in Vietnam, returns July 26.
- Thank you to Jane Barnes for *Friends Fridays* continuing through August. The recent one on Nat King Cole was very successful; Betsy Ross is highlighted in an upcoming one
- *Movies that Matter* will be held in the Auditorium: *A Rental Family* (Brendan Fraser); *A Private Life* (Jodi Foster). *It Was Just An Accident*, co-produced by Iran, France, and Luxembourg, will be an interesting one.
- There will be summer work groups, including a budget committee. The Director will be asked for her “wishlist,” just as before. The Board President said to keep in mind that next year, 2027, is the 100th anniversary of the Library.
- There will be a brochure to highlight the Friends underwriting the museum program.
- The Friends President received this year’s Lizette Parker Award.

Treasurer’s Report

Upon motion by Sandi Silverberg (Paul Ostrow, second), the Treasurer’s Report was accepted without objection.

Director’s Report

Director Shinae Hyun reported:

1. The summer newsletters have been distributed to every Teaneck household; extras are at the Library, and will be brought to the Farmers Market on Thursdays.
2. Spring programs are wrapping up.
3. Since there is no elevator:
 - a. Staff have been accommodating patrons and retrieving items from the lower level.
 - b. Senior living facilities were notified, but still buses showed up last Friday; luckily, they were still in the lot, and the seniors returned to their facility.
4. For Adults, there were 2 crafts programs: *Fragrance* was very well received and a new vendor; arts programs continued with *Watercolors*.

5. There are now 5 book clubs offered, with 2 new ones added - nonfiction and science fiction.
6. Computer classes were held on digital resources of the Library.
7. Computer and ESL classes will be paused for the summer and resume in the fall.
8. For Kids, there were 3 sessions of *Mr. Corbitt's Musical Storytime*, which was very popular.
 - a. One was held in the Children's Reading Garden because the weather was so beautiful and more could participate.
9. There are 2 HS seniors, Olivia and Megan, helping with the summer reading program; they are also labeling books by holiday.
10. Teen volunteers are giving good ideas for programs.
11. The *Summer Reading Kickoff* will be Tuesday, June 23, from 5:30 - 7:30 PM and the program will run until July 31.
12. The *SRP Finale* will feature a DJ on August 4.
13. There have been a lot of school visits - 12 visits/120 students - to promote the *Summer Reading Program*; students have been excited about winning the prizes.
14. Visits to the Farmers Market start this week and run through the summer.
15. The Library will be honored at the Teaneck Creek Conservancy's Benefit Brunch.
16. For the new staff bathroom, a new toilet paper dispenser to accommodate *rapid dissolve* paper has been installed; there have been no (clog/plumbing) problems so far.
17. There was a deep clean, including windows and carpets, of the Library over the Memorial Day holiday weekend.
18. The Temporary Youth Services Assistant - just for the summer - interview process finished and he will start soon.
19. Positions for 1 FT and 1 PT Adult Services Assistant will be advertised in June to hire and train the new staff before fall programs begin.

New Business

Resolution LB-26-16: Disposition of 12-Month Bogota Bank CD - X2717 with Maturity Date of 8/4/26: After the Board President pointed out the best rate for the shortest term was 2.5% for 6 months, Paul Ostrow made the motion (Sandi Silverberg, second), and it passed with all in favor.

Library 2026 Budget will be discussed during **Closed Session**.

Old Business

Elevator Updates:

The Director initiated conversations with the Township Purchasing Agent and she responded with the attached email of May 26. From the list of 4 vendors on NJ State Contract, the Library must contact them all, in the specified order, to get estimates. Three visited onsite and estimates are pending; one vendor declined, as they only provide repair estimates for those companies with whom they have maintenance contracts.

Lower Level Bathrooms:

The layout/structure of the public bathrooms will stay the same and the following are anticipated:

- Improve lighting in the bathrooms by lowering the ceiling, which impacts the little door to the crawl space in the women's bathroom; it will have to be moved slightly.
- Replace toilets, sinks, hand dryers, etc.
- (In the hallway) update the doors and hide the piping in the ceiling with acoustic baffle.
- Door signage will be similar to the colors on the main floor.

At this point, all agreed with the Board President that there is no motion for now. First, the elevator needs to be repaired and operational. Second, the balance of the capital account needs to be determined afterwards.

Remarks from the Public

When Jonathan Cohen asked about available bathroom(s) to use when the bathrooms are renovated, as the new main bathroom is closed during big events, the Director reminded all that previously it was closed because of recurring clogs that necessitated frequent and costly plumber visits. However, since the switchover to the rapid dissolve toilet paper, *so far, so good*. There are also bathrooms in the Police Department, as well as in the Municipal Buildings, that can be used.

Lynn Kloss reiterated the importance of having an elevator as she recounted book club members physically carrying another down - and then up - the stairs. As a BCCLS Trustee Committee member, she recently attended "The Value of BCCLS Programs," for which trustees can earn credits; she will send the link to the Board when available. (The new State Aid requirement is for each trustee to earn 2 credits; before, it was 7 credits for the Board, collectively.)

Closed Session

Closed Session was proposed by Sandi Silverberg (Evalyn Brownstein, second) at 7:39 PM. The Board returned to open session at 7:57 PM, with no action taken.

Good and Welfare

The Director thanks Administrative Assistant Deborah Young for contacting and following up with the elevator companies, coordinating site visits, etc. The Board Treasurer wished everyone a good summer!

Adjournment

Upon motion by Paul Ostrow (Evalyn Brownstein, second), the meeting adjourned at 7:58 PM, with all in favor.

Prepared by Deborah Young