#26-54

The Board of Trustees of Teaneck Public Library

Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of the Board of Trustees

October 8, 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.

Myron Chaitovsky (Secretary), appointed to a five-year term, was sworn in at the start of the meeting.

Trustees Present: Benjy Burnat, President; Keisha Carter, Vice President; Paul Ostrow, Treasurer; Myron Chaitovsky, Secretary; Evalyn Brownstein; Sandra Silverberg; Chondra Young; Terrie Roberts, School Media Specialist.

Also Present: Shinae Hyun, Library Director.

Absent: Seleene Lewis Wong, Mayor's Representative; Karen Orgen, Council Member.

Minutes

(A typo in the Agenda, listing June and not September as the prior meeting date, was corrected)

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

Approved by the Library Board of Trustees on November 5, 2026

Friends Report

Sandi Silverberg, President of the Friends, reported the Friends approved their proposed budget and anticipate that they will be able to fulfill the Library Director's "wish list," as well as Sunday programming (some $45K overall). The Library Board expresses its gratitude for the continued generosity of the Friends.

In recent weeks, the Friends sponsored the film, *Two Prosecutors*, set during the Stalinist Purge of the 30's, as well as a concert featuring Broadway melodies and songs from classic Girl Groups.

The Friends have hired a Website designer. Stay tuned for a new look and more events.

Treasurer's Report

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

Director's Report

Director Shinae Hyun reported:

1. September was *Library Sign-Up Month* and the Library offered a *Library Card Contest* based on photos of patrons holding their Library cards. Participants entered a raffle and the little girl who won the Barnes & Noble gift card was quite excited.
2. The Library introduced a circulating *Tonies collection,* which received enthusiastic response from families, apparently because it's not screen based. Due to strong demand, the Library plans to expand its collection, which is currently available for checkout in the Children's Room.
3. A *Family Campfire* at the Teaneck Creek Conservancy drew a strong turnout and enthusiastic feedback. The event included s'mores, outdoor games, and a paper lantern craft. Given its popularity in previous years, the Library expanded it from a single summer date to two dates in the fall. A second *Family Campfire* is scheduled for a Sunday in late October.
4. The *ESL Program* began in early September with a Welcome Breakfast. About 20 tutors and students came. Weekly classes consistently attract about 15 students. We continue to explore ways to enhance the program and provide a stronger learning experience for participants. To this end, our Adult Services Librarian, May Kwon, attended an ESL managers meeting in mid-September to exchange ideas and information with ESL coordinators from other libraries.

5. *Teen Advisory Board* members were welcomed back at the start of the school year and discussed potential winter program collaborations with vendors and revisited their bylaws. 19 new volunteers signed up in September and volunteer opportunities for the fall quickly filled up with those applicants.
6. *Youth Services* staff created a *Recommendation Binder.* Located at the *Children's Desk*, this will provide families an easy way to find suggestions for popular genres and topics for various ages.
7. Buildings and Grounds: In early September, Tremco reassessed the extent of necessary roof work, and returned to repair leaky roof areas and washed the roof. However, some leakage continues near the *New Books* area against the brick wall.
8. Library Staff enjoyed a catered Korean lunch in mid-September, courtesy of the Youth Services Summer Temporary Librarian Assistant, Hanson Lee, and his mom, Liz.
9. On September 22, a new poster printer was installed in the mezzanine: several staff were trained on its use.
10. Staff: Part-Time Youth Services Assistant, Samantha DeFalco resigned in late September in order to participate in a teaching abroad program based in Italy. The position was posted and offered to Jenna Squasoni who will join the department in early October as Youth Services Assistant. Our Part-Time Adult Program Coordinator, Jane Barnes, also submitted her resignation in late September.
11. On September 24th the Township provided employees with training in *Sensitivity Basics: Creating Positive Working Relationships, Sexual Harassment/ Discrimination*, and *Conflict Management Training.*

New Business

A. 2025 Library Audit Report #26-52
B. 2027 Library Board Of Trustees Meetings Resolution LB 26-20
C. 2027 Holiday Closing Schedule Resolution LB 26-21
D. 2027 Budget #26-53 (proposed)
E. Change of Part-Time status to Full-Time (#26-54)

- Motion to accept items A, B, and C as presented was made by Myron Chaitovsky (Sandi Silverberg, second). Passed with no objections.
- Item D is a 'realistic' budget, incorporating line items heretofore not included, as per the Board's discussion last month. Motion to accept this version was made by Paul Ostrow (Sandi Silverberg, second) and passed without objection.
- Item E (#26-54) [inadvertently left off the Meeting Agenda] concerned replacing the *Part-Time Adult Services Coordinator* with a Full-Time position. This would result in more consistent hours, improved performance, and less turnover. Motion to approve this change was made by Sandi Silverberg (Chondra Young, second) and passed with no objection

Old Business

The contract for the elevator repair was awarded in early July, at which time the contractor advised that the project would take 10 to 12 weeks from the award date, completing the project roughly by the end of September. This past week, the contractor asked for an additional six weeks (bringing us to mid November) due to a measuring error at the initial stage. The board understandably considered bringing charges of incompetence against the contractor. A review of the contract was requested by Myron Chaitovsky to determine if there is an indemnity clause protecting the Library. (Keisha Carter suggested that such clauses are standard in these situations.). Board President Burnat suggested that we move on with the repair and demand an adjustment at the time payment is due.

Adjournment

Upon motion by Paul Ostrow (Chondra Young, second), the meeting adjourned at 7:51 PM, without objection.

Myron Chaitovsky
Prepared by Deborah Young