



QUEENS PUBLIC LIBRARY

Board of Trustees Regular Meeting Minutes

Thursday, June 26, 2025 at 6:45 PM

Central Library 89-11 Merrick Boulevard, Jamaica, NY 11432

I. CALL TO ORDER

Roll Call

Present

ELI SHAPIRO Ed. D LCSW, JOHANNA CARMONA, Esq., MATTHEW M. GORTON, JAMES M. HADDAD, Esq., CLOYETTE HARRIS-STOUTE, PAULINE HEALY, ANDREW JACKSON, PETER KAUFFMANN, CARL KOERNER, Esq., JAMIE LEE, MICHELLE MIAO, Ph. D., GUILLERMO PATINO, GEORGE RUSSO, Esq., ALEXANDRIA SUMPTER-DELVES, Esq., and TERRI THOMSON

Excused

JULISSA GUTIERREZ, SELINA LEE, Ph. D., EARL G. SIMONS, Ed. D., and LYDON SLEEPER-O'CONNELL

Others Present

MATTHEW CARLIN, Esq., DENNIS M. WALCOTT, JUSTIN DEABLER, NICK BURON, SUNG MO KIM, GITTE PENG, VINEL LIRIANO, WILLIAM FUNK, WILLIAM GOLDBAND, SARA HAUSNER-LEVINE, Esq., MONIQUE HAMILTON, CHAUNCIE BROOKS, DOMINIQUE SIMBOLI, and DANIELLE WALSH

II. APPROVAL OF BOT MINUTES

A) Approval of Minutes of the Board - April 24, 2025

Recommended Motion for Consideration by the Board of Trustees:

I move that the Minutes of the Board of Trustees meeting be approved as submitted.

Moved by: PAULINE HEALY

Seconded by: GUILLERMO PATINO

Aye ELI SHAPIRO Ed. D LCSW, JOHANNA CARMONA, Esq., MATTHEW M. GORTON, JAMES M. HADDAD, Esq., CLOYETTE HARRIS-STOUTE, PAULINE HEALY, ANDREW JACKSON, PETER KAUFFMANN, CARL KOERNER, Esq., JAMIE LEE, MICHELLE MIAO, Ph. D., GUILLERMO PATINO, GEORGE RUSSO, Esq., and TERRI THOMSON

Carried 14-0

III. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A) Approval of Finance & Investment Report- June 12, 2025

Recommended Motion for Consideration by the Board of Trustees:

I move that the report items of the June 12, 2025 F&I Committee meeting be accepted and that the action items be approved as submitted.

Moved by: CARL KOERNER, Esq.

Seconded by: MICHELLE MIAO, Ph. D.

Aye ELI SHAPIRO Ed. D LCSW, JOHANNA CARMONA, Esq., MATTHEW M. GORTON, JAMES M. HADDAD, Esq., CLOYETTE HARRIS-STOUTE, PAULINE HEALY, ANDREW JACKSON, PETER KAUFFMANN, CARL KOERNER, Esq., JAMIE LEE, MICHELLE MIAO, Ph. D., GUILLERMO PATINO, GEORGE RUSSO, Esq., ALEXANDRIA SUMPTER-DELVES, Esq., and TERRI THOMSON

Carried 15-0

B) Approval of Finance & Investment Report - June 26, 2025

Recommended Motion for Consideration by the Board of

Trustees:

I move that the report items of the June 26, 2025 F&I Committee meeting be accepted and that the action items be approved as submitted.

Moved by: CARL KOERNER, Esq.

Seconded by: MICHELLE MIAO, Ph. D.

Aye ELI SHAPIRO Ed. D LCSW, JOHANNA CARMONA, Esq., MATTHEW M. GORTON, JAMES M. HADDAD, Esq., CLOYETTE HARRIS-STOUTE, PAULINE HEALY, ANDREW JACKSON, PETER KAUFFMANN, CARL KOERNER, Esq., JAMIE LEE, MICHELLE MIAO, Ph. D., GUILLERMO PATINO, GEORGE RUSSO, Esq., ALEXANDRIA SUMPTER-DELVES, Esq., and TERRI THOMSON

Carried 15-0

IV. AGENDA

Action Item(s)

A) Approval of QPLF FY26 Budget

Recommended Motion for Consideration by the Board of Trustees:

I move that the Board of Trustees approve the adoption of the Queens Public Library Foundation's FY2026 General Fund Budget.

Moved by: CARL KOERNER, Esq.

Seconded by: ALEXANDRIA SUMPTER-DELVES, Esq.

Aye ELI SHAPIRO Ed. D LCSW, JOHANNA CARMONA, Esq., MATTHEW M. GORTON, JAMES M. HADDAD, Esq., CLOYETTE HARRIS-STOUTE, PAULINE HEALY, ANDREW JACKSON, PETER KAUFFMANN, CARL KOERNER, Esq., JAMIE LEE, MICHELLE MIAO, Ph. D., GUILLERMO PATINO, GEORGE RUSSO, Esq., ALEXANDRIA SUMPTER-DELVES, Esq., and TERRI THOMSON

Carried 15-0

B) Approval of New QPLF Director

Recommended Motion for Consideration by the Board of Trustees:

I move that the Board of Trustees approve the election of Tess Shih to the Class of 2028 of the Queens Public Library Foundation Board of Directors.

Moved by: CARL KOERNER, Esq.

Seconded by: PAULINE HEALY

Aye ELI SHAPIRO Ed. D LCSW, JOHANNA CARMONA, Esq., MATTHEW M. GORTON, JAMES M. HADDAD, Esq., CLOYETTE HARRIS-STOUTE, PAULINE HEALY, ANDREW JACKSON, PETER KAUFFMANN, CARL KOERNER, Esq., JAMIE LEE, MICHELLE MIAO, Ph. D., GUILLERMO PATINO, GEORGE RUSSO, Esq., ALEXANDRIA SUMPTER-DELVES, Esq., and TERRI THOMSON

Carried 15-0

C) Contract Authorization – Corona Residential Building Demolition

Recommended Motion for Consideration by the Board of Trustees:

I move that the Board of Trustees authorize the President and CEO to execute a contract with The Urban Group LTD in the

amount of \$447,655 for demolition of the residential building adjacent to the Corona Community Library.

Moved by: PAULINE HEALY

Seconded by: TERRI THOMSON

Aye ELI SHAPIRO Ed. D LCSW, JOHANNA CARMONA, Esq., MATTHEW M. GORTON, JAMES M. HADDAD, Esq., CLOYETTE HARRIS-STOUTE, PAULINE HEALY, ANDREW JACKSON, PETER KAUFFMANN, CARL KOERNER, Esq., JAMIE LEE, MICHELLE MIAO, Ph. D., GUILLERMO PATINO, GEORGE RUSSO, Esq., ALEXANDRIA SUMPTER-DELVES, Esq., and TERRI THOMSON

Carried 15-0

D) Motion to go into Executive Session

Recommended Motion for Consideration:

I move that the meeting move into Executive Session, to discuss pending litigation and personnel matters.

Moved by: MICHELLE MIAO, Ph. D.

Seconded by: GEORGE RUSSO, Esq.

Aye ELI SHAPIRO Ed. D LCSW, JOHANNA CARMONA, Esq., MATTHEW M. GORTON, JAMES M. HADDAD, Esq., CLOYETTE HARRIS-STOUTE, PAULINE HEALY, ANDREW JACKSON, PETER KAUFFMANN, CARL KOERNER, Esq., JAMIE LEE, MICHELLE MIAO, Ph. D., GUILLERMO PATINO, GEORGE RUSSO, Esq., ALEXANDRIA SUMPTER-DELVES, Esq., and TERRI THOMSON

Carried 15-0

E) Motion to Return to Public Session

Recommended Motion for Consideration

I move that the meeting return to public session.

Moved by: CARL KOERNER, Esq.

Seconded by: PAULINE HEALY

Aye ELI SHAPIRO Ed. D LCSW, JOHANNA CARMONA, Esq., MATTHEW M. GORTON, JAMES M. HADDAD, Esq., CLOYETTE HARRIS-STOUTE, PAULINE HEALY, ANDREW JACKSON, PETER KAUFFMANN, CARL KOERNER, Esq., JAMIE LEE, MICHELLE MIAO, Ph. D., GUILLERMO PATINO, GEORGE RUSSO, Esq., ALEXANDRIA SUMPTER-DELVES, Esq., and TERRI THOMSON

Carried 15-0

Action Resulting from Executive Session Discussion

Recommended Motion for Consideration by the Board of Trustees:
WHEREAS, the Library's By-Laws provide, in pertinent part, that, with the exception of the President and Chief Executive Officer, the other key executive personnel of the Library be appointed by the President and Chief Executive Officer with the consent of the Board of Trustees; and WHEREAS, Dennis M. Walcott, the Library's President and Chief Executive Officer, has selected Michael McLeod as Chief Financial Officer and Senior Vice President, subject to the Board of Trustee's consent.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that, after due deliberation, the Board of Trustees consent to the appointment of Mr. McLeod to the position Chief Financial Officer and Senior Vice President.

Moved by: ALEXANDRIA SUMPTER-DELVES, Esq.

Seconded by: MICHELLE MIAO, Ph. D.

Aye ELI SHAPIRO Ed. D LCSW, JOHANNA CARMONA, Esq., MATTHEW M. GORTON, JAMES M. HADDAD, Esq., CLOYETTE HARRIS-STOUTE, PAULINE HEALY, ANDREW JACKSON, PETER KAUFFMANN, CARL KOERNER, Esq., JAMIE LEE, MICHELLE MIAO, Ph. D., GUILLERMO PATINO, GEORGE RUSSO, Esq., ALEXANDRIA SUMPTER-DELVES, Esq., and TERRI THOMSON

Carried 15-0

Report Item(s)

- F) \$50K spend reports for April
PRESENTED
- G) \$50K spend reports for May
PRESENTED
- H) Personnel report for April
PRESENTED
- I) Personnel report for May
PRESENTED

V. REPORT OF THE CHAIR OF THE BOARD

Chair of the Board, Eli Shapiro, followed up on the Trustees attending an event together during the summer, about which Library staff will be in touch.

VI. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President and CEO, Dennis M. Walcott, thanked Vinel Liriano, Vice President of Finance, for all of her great work as the interim CFO during the end of the fiscal year.

Mr. Walcott and Nick Buron, Chief Librarian, discussed several weather-related incidents that affected specific library locations.

Gitte Peng, Chief of Staff and Senior V.P., provided an update on the first quarterly Strategic Plan meeting with Leadership to focus on the eight

strategic priorities set forth in the Plan.

Mr. Walcott reported that Luisa Benedetto, Director of Government Affairs, and her counterparts at Brooklyn Public Library and New York Public Library have been advocating around the City's budget. Mr. Walcott also reported that an op-ed will be published tomorrow. Trustee Andrew Jackson asked for follow up on when the mobile library will be available for the Trustees to tour and an update on replacing library signage. Mr. Walcott reports that the second mobile library was put in service two days ago, with the third expected in September. The community and the Board of Trustees will have an opportunity to tour them. He also reported that the reopening of Flushing auditorium is schedule for July 12. Sung Mo Kim, Chief Operating Officer and Senior V.P., reported that QPL has a signage program that is moving forward incrementally.

A) Key Performance Indicators for April 2025
PRESENTED

B) Key Performance Indicators for May 2025
PRESENTED

VII. Adjournment

9:02PM

Recommended Motion for Consideration

I move that the meeting be adjourned.

Moved by: CARL KOERNER, Esq.

Seconded by: PAULINE HEALY

Aye

ELI SHAPIRO Ed. D LCSW, JOHANNA
CARMONA, Esq., MATTHEW M. GORTON,
JAMES M. HADDAD, Esq., CLOYETTE HARRIS-
STOUTE, PAULINE HEALY, ANDREW JACKSON,
PETER KAUFFMANN, CARL KOERNER, Esq.,
JAMIE LEE, MICHELLE MIAO, Ph. D.,
GUILLERMO PATINO, GEORGE RUSSO, Esq.,
ALEXANDRIA SUMPTER-DELVES, Esq., and
TERRI THOMSON

Carried 15-0

Pauline Healy - Secretary