

Board of Trustees Regular Meeting Minutes

Thursday, December 11, 2025 at 7:02 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., JULISSA GUTIERREZ, JAMES M. HADDAD, Esq., PAULINE HEALY, ANDREW JACKSON, PETER KAUFFMANN, CARL KOERNER, Esq., JAMIE LEE, SELINA LEE, Ph. D., MICHELLE MIAO, Ph. D., GUILLERMO PATINO, EARL G. SIMONS, Ed. D., LYDON SLEEPER-O'CONNELL, ALEXANDRIA SUMPTER-DELVES, Esq., and TERRI THOMSON

Excused

MATTHEW M. GORTON, CLOYETTE HARRIS-STOUTE, and GEORGE RUSSO, Esq.

Others Present

ALLAN SWISHER, Esq., MATTHEW CARLIN, Esq., DENNIS M. WALCOTT, JUSTIN DEABLER, NICK BURON, SUNG MO KIM, GITTE PENG, VINEL LIRIANO, SUSAN LATHAM, WILLIAM FUNK, FELIX PEREZ, WILLIAM GOLDBAND, SHARON MYRIE, SARA HAUSNER-LEVINE, Esq., MONIQUE HAMILTON, CHAUNCIE BROOKS, DOMINIQUE SIMBOLI, DANIELLE WALSH, and Michael McLeod

II. APPROVAL OF BOT MINUTES

A) Approval of Minutes of the Board - September 11, 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: ANDREW JACKSON

Seconded by: PAULINE HEALY

Aye ELI SHAPIRO Ed. D LCSW, JOHANNA CARMONA, Esq., JULISSA GUTIERREZ, JAMES M. HADDAD, Esq., PAULINE HEALY, ANDREW JACKSON, PETER KAUFFMANN, CARL KOERNER, Esq., JAMIE LEE, SELINA LEE, Ph. D., MICHELLE MIAO, Ph. D., GUILLERMO PATINO, EARL G. SIMONS, Ed. D., LYDON SLEEPER-O'CONNELL, ALEXANDRIA SUMPTER-DELVES, Esq., and TERRI THOMSON

Carried 16-0

III. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A) Approval of Nominating Committee Report - November 20, 2025

Recommended Motion for Consideration by the Board of Trustees:

I move that the report of the Nominating Committee meeting be accepted and approved as submitted.

Moved by: JULISSA GUTIERREZ

Seconded by: PETER KAUFFMANN

Aye ELI SHAPIRO Ed. D LCSW, JOHANNA CARMONA, Esq., JULISSA GUTIERREZ, JAMES M. HADDAD, Esq., PAULINE HEALY, ANDREW JACKSON, PETER KAUFFMANN, CARL KOERNER, Esq., JAMIE LEE, SELINA LEE, Ph. D., MICHELLE MIAO, Ph. D., GUILLERMO PATINO, EARL G. SIMONS, Ed. D., LYDON SLEEPER-O'CONNELL, ALEXANDRIA SUMPTER-DELVES, Esq., and TERRI THOMSON

Carried 16-0

- B) Motion to Close Nominations

Recommended Motion for Consideration by the Board of Trustees:

I move that the Board of Trustees close the nominations for officers of the Library for calendar year 2026.

Moved by: ANDREW JACKSON

Seconded by: ALEXANDRIA SUMPTER-DELVES, Esq.

Aye ELI SHAPIRO Ed. D LCSW, JOHANNA CARMONA, Esq., JULISSA GUTIERREZ, JAMES M. HADDAD, Esq., PAULINE HEALY, ANDREW JACKSON, PETER KAUFFMANN, CARL KOERNER, Esq., JAMIE LEE, SELINA LEE, Ph. D., MICHELLE MIAO, Ph. D., GUILLERMO PATINO, EARL G. SIMONS, Ed. D., LYDON SLEEPER-O'CONNELL, ALEXANDRIA SUMPTER-DELVES, Esq., and TERRI THOMSON

Carried 16-0

C) Approval of Finance & Investment Committee Report - December 11, 2025

Recommended Motion for Consideration by the Board of Trustees:

I move that the report of the Finance & Investment Committee meeting be accepted as submitted.

Moved by: JAMES M. HADDAD, Esq.

Seconded by: ANDREW JACKSON

Aye ELI SHAPIRO Ed. D LCSW, JOHANNA CARMONA, Esq., JULISSA GUTIERREZ, JAMES M. HADDAD, Esq., PAULINE HEALY, ANDREW JACKSON, PETER KAUFFMANN, CARL KOERNER, Esq., JAMIE LEE, SELINA LEE, Ph. D., MICHELLE MIAO, Ph. D., GUILLERMO PATINO, EARL G. SIMONS, Ed. D., LYDON SLEEPER-

O'CONNELL, ALEXANDRIA SUMPTER-DELVES,
Esq., and TERRI THOMSON

Carried 16-0

- D) Approval of Programming Committee Report - December 11,
2025

**Recommended Motion for Consideration by the Board of
Trustees:**

*I move that the report item of the Programming Committee
meeting be accepted as submitted.*

Moved by: JULISSA GUTIERREZ

Seconded by: JOHANNA CARMONA, Esq.

Aye ELI SHAPIRO Ed. D LCSW, JOHANNA
CARMONA, Esq., JULISSA GUTIERREZ, JAMES
M. HADDAD, Esq., PAULINE HEALY, ANDREW
JACKSON, PETER KAUFFMANN, CARL
KOERNER, Esq., JAMIE LEE, SELINA LEE, Ph. D.,
MICHELLE MIAO, Ph. D., GUILLERMO PATINO,
EARL G. SIMONS, Ed. D., LYDON SLEEPER-
O'CONNELL, ALEXANDRIA SUMPTER-DELVES,
Esq., and TERRI THOMSON

Carried 16-0

IV. AGENDA

Action Item(s)

- A) Calendar of Meetings - 2026

**Recommended Motion for Consideration by the Board of
Trustees:**

*I move that the calendar of Board of Trustees and Committee
meeting dates for 2026 be approved as presented.*

Moved by: ANDREW JACKSON

Seconded by: ALEXANDRIA SUMPTER-DELVES, Esq.

Aye ELI SHAPIRO Ed. D LCSW, JOHANNA CARMONA, Esq., JULISSA GUTIERREZ, JAMES M. HADDAD, Esq., PAULINE HEALY, ANDREW JACKSON, PETER KAUFFMANN, CARL KOERNER, Esq., JAMIE LEE, SELINA LEE, Ph. D., MICHELLE MIAO, Ph. D., GUILLERMO PATINO, EARL G. SIMONS, Ed. D., LYDON SLEEPER-O'CONNELL, ALEXANDRIA SUMPTER-DELVES, Esq., and TERRI THOMSON

Carried 16-0

B) Approval of Revised Gift Acceptance Policy

Susan Latham, Executive Director of QPLF, reported that the Foundation Board of Directors met the night before, on December 10, 2025, and approved revisions to the Gift Acceptance Policy.

Justin Deabler, General Counsel and SVP, provided an overview on the revisions made to the Gift Acceptance Policy.

Recommended Motion for Consideration by the Board of Trustees:

I move the Board of Trustees adopt the revised Gift Acceptance Policy, as set forth in the attachments

Moved by: TERRI THOMSON

Seconded by: MICHELLE MIAO, Ph. D.

Aye ELI SHAPIRO Ed. D LCSW, JOHANNA CARMONA, Esq., JULISSA GUTIERREZ, JAMES M. HADDAD, Esq., PAULINE HEALY, ANDREW JACKSON, PETER KAUFFMANN, CARL KOERNER, Esq., JAMIE LEE, SELINA LEE, Ph. D., MICHELLE MIAO, Ph. D., GUILLERMO PATINO, EARL G. SIMONS, Ed. D., LYDON SLEEPER-

O'CONNELL, ALEXANDRIA SUMPTER-DELVES,
Esq., and TERRI THOMSON

Carried 16-0

C) Motion to go into Executive Session

The following library staff were asked to remain for the discussion during the Executive Session:

- Dennis M. Walcott, President and CEO
- Gitte Peng, Chief of Staff and Sr. VP
- Justin Deabler, Esq., General Counsel and Sr. VP
- Sung Mo Kim, Esq., Chief Operating Officer and Sr. VP
- McLeod, Chief Financial Officer and Sr. VP
- Nick Buron, Chief Librarian and Sr. VP
- Sara Hausner-Levine, Deputy General Counsel

Recommended Motion for Consideration:

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

Moved by: TERRI THOMSON

Seconded by: PAULINE HEALY

Carried

D) Return to Public Session

Recommended Motion for Consideration

I move that the meeting return to public session.

Moved by: ALEXANDRIA SUMPTER-DELVES, Esq.

Seconded by: ANDREW JACKSON

Aye

ELI SHAPIRO Ed. D LCSW, JOHANNA CARMONA, Esq., JULISSA GUTIERREZ, JAMES M. HADDAD, Esq., PAULINE HEALY, ANDREW JACKSON, PETER KAUFFMANN, CARL KOERNER, Esq., JAMIE LEE, SELINA LEE, Ph. D., MICHELLE MIAO, Ph. D., GUILLERMO PATINO,

EARL G. SIMONS, Ed. D., LYDON SLEEPER-
O'CONNELL, ALEXANDRIA SUMPTER-DELVES,
Esq., and TERRI THOMSON

Carried 16-0

Report Item(s)

- E) Purchases Over \$50K - September 2025
PRESENTED
- F) Purchases Over \$50K - October 2025
PRESENTED
- G) Purchases Over \$50K - November 2025
PRESENTED
- H) Personnel Report - September 2025
PRESENTED
- I) Personnel Report - October 2025
PRESENTED
- J) Personnel Report - November 2025
PRESENTED

V. REPORT OF THE CHAIR OF THE BOARD

Board Chair Eli Shapiro thanked Mr. Walcott for his leadership and the board for working together this past year. He also reminded the board to submit their conflict-of-interest forms if they have not already done so and complete the annual trustee training webinar.

VI. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Dennis M. Walcott, President and Chief Executive Officer, thanked Board Chair Eli Shapiro and the board for their contributions. Mr. Walcott asked Nick Buron, Chief Librarian and SVP, to provide a report.

Mr. Buron reported that we have several libraries closed due to upgrades. He also reported that QPL has provided mobile library services for 90 years, including two book bikes that provide services to the community. Mr. Buron notified the board about QPL's event to reveal the new bookmobile

happening on Saturday at 12 noon. The event will take place at the new LeFrak City Library location. Mr. Walcott reported that Council Member Francisco Moya (who allocated funds for the bookmobile) has a term ending on December 31, 2025. Mr. Buron also reported on the outreach event held at the Veteran's Home in St. Albans, Queens. QPL provides books to the Veteran's Home's on-site library room, and residents can submit book requests online or by telephone.

Sung Mo Kim, Chief Operating Officer and SVP, provided an update on the Far Rockaway library's sewage system repairs. Mr. Kim reported that, during the excavation to complete this repair, data wiring lines were damaged. Trustee Lydon Sleeper-O'Connell asked if the repairs were capital expenses. Mr. Kim confirmed the repairs will be made with expense funds. Mr. Kim reported demolition work has begun at the new LeFrak.

Gitte Peng, Chief of Staff and SVP, provided an update on the Strategic Plan. Mrs. Peng mentioned that it is the Season of Giving and encouraged full Board participation. Mr. Walcott reported that QPL received a \$316,000 grant from National Grid Foundation. This grant will support expanding teen services.

- A) Key Performance Indicators - August 2025
PRESENTED
- B) Key Performance Indicators - September 2025
PRESENTED
- C) Key Performance Indicators - October 2025
PRESENTED

VII. Adjournment

Motion To Adjourn at 8:41pm

Recommended Motion for Consideration

I move that the meeting be adjourned.

Moved by: JULISSA GUTIERREZ

Seconded by: PETER KAUFFMANN

Aye

ELI SHAPIRO Ed. D LCSW, JOHANNA
CARMONA, Esq., JULISSA GUTIERREZ, JAMES
M. HADDAD, Esq., PAULINE HEALY, ANDREW
JACKSON, PETER KAUFFMANN, CARL
KOERNER, Esq., JAMIE LEE, SELINA LEE, Ph. D.,
MICHELLE MIAO, Ph. D., GUILLERMO PATINO,
EARL G. SIMONS, Ed. D., LYDON SLEEPER-
O'CONNELL, ALEXANDRIA SUMPTER-DELVES,
Esq., and TERRI THOMSON

Carried 16-0

Pauline Healy - Secretary