

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
**OSSINING PUBLIC LIBRARY**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**~~February 23, 2026 – 7:00pm~~**  
**Rescheduled due to inclement weather to:**  
**February 25, 2026 – 7:00pm**  
**Second Floor Conference Room**  
**53 Croton Ave., Ossining, NY**

**Approved Meeting Minutes**

OPL BOT members physically present: Amanda Curley, Rachel Murphy, Alice Joselow, Phil Rice, and Althema Goodson (who arrived at 7:03pm)

OPL BOB members absent with prior notice: Meghan Huppuch and Amanda Marsh

OPL staff members physically present: Karen LaRocca-Fels, and Steve Hamilton

Member of the general public physically present: Devante Richards

Call to Order

Amanda Curley called the meeting to order at 7:01pm.

Amanda Curley read aloud the OPL Mission and Vision statements:

The Ossining Public Library enriches, connects, and inspires our community. The Ossining Public Library will be the community's center for lifelong learning.

Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes

Motion to Accept the Minutes of the January 29, 2026, Regular Meeting; and the February 5, 2026, Work Session Meeting.

On a motion by Phil Rice, seconded by Rachel Murphy, and passed unanimously 4-0, the Board accepted the minutes of the January 29, 2026, Regular Meeting; and the February 5, 2026, Work Session Meeting.

Althema Goodson arrived at 7:03pm.

Public Comment

Devante Richards noted the recent inclement weather and expressed his hope that the weather improves soon.

Director's Report

- Personnel Report

Board discussion addressed Hoopla's (a digital content provider) recent updated borrowing limits that affect the total numbers of items that can be checked out virtually by individual patrons, all patrons of the OPL in aggregate, and WLS systemwide in aggregate. Discussion noted that as the building project moves forward, and the library's physical collection may be more difficult to access, patron access to robust digital library resources will be of paramount importance. Also discussed was the

Director and some Board members' attendance at an upcoming PLA Conference in Minneapolis, MN. They will be presenting at the conference along with a librarian from MN on the topic of Board continuing education and trustee skills development.

### Financial Report

- Operating Budget and Revenue Report

Finance Committee Chair Phil Rice noted that the December 2025 financial reports included in tonight's meeting packet will be reviewed in detail when the committee meets this upcoming Friday.

- Warrants: Motion to Accept the Warrants dated 02/03/26, 02/11/26, and 02/18/26 On a motion by Althema Goodson, seconded by Rachel Murphy, and passed unanimously 5-0, the Board accepted the warrants dated 02/03/26, 02/11/26, and 02/18/26.

### Committee Reports

#### President's Report

BOT President Meghan Huppuch was absent due to illness, so no report was provided.

- Friends of the Ossining Public Library Update, Nancy Panagacos, President was not present, and no report was provided.

- Ossining Library Foundation Update, Leslie Allen, Chair was not present, and no report was provided.

- Westchester Library System Update, Alice Joselow, Board Trustee, District 2 Alice Joselow attended the most recent WLS meeting where changes in the fees charged by Hoopla digital content platform was discussed. The Board will be meeting this Saturday at WLS for a retreat facilitated by WLS Director Terry Kirchner. At that time the Board will request verification of the new fees and service options offered for digital content.

#### Policy, Bylaws, and Personnel Committee

- Draft Revised Materials Lending Schedule First Reading

The Board noted that the sole change to this policy is regarding Hot Spot lending limits and late fees.

- Employee Handbook
- Programming Policy
- Public Relations Policy

Policy & Personnel Committee Chair Alice Joselow noted that the remainder of items above are being reviewed by the P&P Committee. Also discussed was the possibility of changing the P&P Committee meeting frequency from once per month, to every other month.

#### Building and Grounds Committee

- Update on Building Project
- General B&G Report
- Planning for Temporary Library Space

Buildings & Grounds Committee Chair Phil Rice reported that the relevant contractors involved in the preparation and installation of RTU-6, as well as the retaining wall work, and the interior renovations continue to meet each Wednesday at the library to provide work status reports and updates. The full B&G Committee meeting is scheduled for next Monday. Calgi Construction – the construction project manager - continues to

coordinate with all involved contractors to update construction schedules, review and approve invoices, review budgets and required approvals, and follow-up on all aspects project coordination, timeframes, etc.

#### Finance Committee

- 2026/2027 Budget Proposal
- Treasurer Update
- Building Project Payment Schedule

The Board noted that the nascent 2026/2027 Budget Proposal was discussed earlier in the evening. Finance Committee Chair Phil Rice reported that there has been no response to the RFP for the Treasurer position. Review of the existing specs and a revised RFP will need to be drafted. BOT Secretary (and committee member) Rachel Murphy has prepared various proposed bond payment schedules with one being the preferred option.

#### Outreach and Engagement Committee

Outreach and Engagement Committee Chair Althema Goodson reported that the committee was unable to meet in February 2026. She also advised that due to a change in her schedule the committee meetings would need to be moved from Tuesdays to Thursdays moving forward.

#### OPL Board Goals

- Trustee Annual Goals
- Board Retreat / Long-Range Strategic Plan
- PLA Conference Session

Ad Hoc Committee Chair (and BOT President) Meghan Huppuch was absent from the meeting, so Trustee Annual Goals were tabled. Board discussion focused on the Board Retreat scheduled for this Saturday at WLS to discuss the new Long-Range Strategic Plan and noted that the PLA Conference Session was discussed earlier in the meeting.

#### Resolutions

On a motion by Alice Joselow, seconded by Althema Goodson, and passed unanimously 5-0, the Board agreed to group the vote on Resolution #s 52, 53, and 54 into one vote.

***RESOLUTION #52 Approval to Accept a Grant of \$10,000 from the Carnegie Corporation of New York in Honor of the Country's 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary***

***RESOLVED***, that the Board approves the acceptance of a grant of \$10,000 from the Carnegie Corporation of New York in honor of the Country's 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

***RESOLUTION #53 Approval of the Proposal from Toshiba Business Solutions Dated February 20, 2026, in the amount of \$768.83 per month***

***RESOLVED***, that the Board approves the proposal from Toshiba Business Solutions dated February 20, 2026, in the amount of \$768.83 per month

***RESOLUTION #54 Approval of the Invoice from SGH Dated February 9, 2026, in the Amount of \$51,512.00***

**RESOLVED**, that the Board approves the invoice from SGH dated February 9, 2026, in the amount of \$51,512.00

On a motion by Alice Joselow, seconded by Althema Goodson, and passed unanimously 5-0, the Board approved Resolution #s 52, 53, and 54.

#### Old Business

- New Long Range Strategic Plan – the Board retreat to discuss and begin formulating this is scheduled for Saturday, February 28<sup>th</sup> at WLS.
- Materials Locker Usage – tabled until next meeting to allow time to gather stats regarding their usage.

#### New Business

- Board and Committee Meetings – Zoom Attendance and Quorums – the Board discussed the need to follow open meeting laws, particularly public notice requirements and quorums. The Board decided to cease allowing BOT members to attend committee meetings via Zoom.
- OPL Art Collection Management – Molly Robbins has been assigned to formulate a respectful plan to liquidate undisputed and stored artworks that have been donated to the library over the years that cannot be kept after the construction project is complete due to storage areas being converted to useable library space.

#### Public Comment

Devante Richards noted that daylight savings time will soon be here.

The Board did NOT enter Executive Session.

Executive Session: To discuss the medical, financial, credit or employment history of a particular person or corporation, or matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal or removal of a particular person or corporation.

#### Adjournment

On a motion by Alice Joselow, seconded by Rachel Murphy, and passed unanimously 5-0, the meeting was adjourned at 8:37pm.