



September OPL Board of Trustees' Meeting Minutes

Omaha Public Library

9/17/2025 5:00 PM

@ Willa Cather Branch, 1905 South 44th Street, Omaha, NE 68105

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Omaha Public Library Board of Trustees met on Wednesday, September 17, 2025 at the Willa Cather Branch, 1905 South 44th Street. President Mullen called the meeting to order at 5:03 pm.

Julie Wetherell, Recording Secretary, took the Roll Call:

ROLL CALL

Present:

Members: Maria Arriaga, Joseph Bradley, Mikki Frost, Jen Rae Hein-Wang, Cecil Hicks, Dan Lonergan, Rochelle Mullen, DeJuan Reddick

Guests: Laura Marlane, Executive Library Director

Absent:

Members: Clarice Jackson

2. CERTIFICATION OF PUBLICATION - NOTIFICATION OF OPEN MEETINGS ACT

This meeting has been advertised in the [Daily Record](#), the Official Newspaper of the City of Omaha, on September 15, 2025, and is held in accordance with the [Nebraska Open Meetings Act](#). A copy of the Open Meetings Act is available on the table and on the wall.

3. BRANCH REPORT

Jennifer Jazynka, Branch Manager

Jennifer Jazynka, Branch Manager, appeared and spoke. She highlighted things she learned about the branch in the short time she has been branch manager. She also took questions from Board members.

4. DEPARTMENT MANAGER REPORT/PRESENTATION

Wendy Robinson, Office Manager

Wendy Robinson, Office Manager, appeared and spoke. She shared important information about the budget and took questions from Board members. She shared a presentation of the budget process and also displayed what the covers of the 2025 and 2026 budget will look like.

ACTION ITEMS

Any person who has been invited to speak or has requested to speak before the Trustees is requested to be brief and to limit his or her comments to five minutes or

less, after identifying themselves by name and address for public record. When more than one person wishes to address the Trustees on a Consent Agenda item or Resolution, the proponents will be invited to speak first, followed by the opponents. The proponents will be given a brief period for rebuttal of any new information presented during the opponent's presentation, after which public comments will be concluded. Trustees will ask any questions at the conclusion of any public comments, prior to voting. The President, or presiding officer, may use reasonable discretion to limit or extend a speaker's time to avoid redundancy, to assure a thorough public discussion on matters before the Board, and to end discussion. Public comment and Board approval is today.

5. Approval of Minutes

[08/20/2025 Minutes](#)

President Mullen opened up the public comment period on Agenda Item 5, August 20, 2025 Minutes. No one spoke and the public comment period was closed.

MOTION by Reddick, SECOND by Hein-Wang, that Agenda Item 5 (Approval of minutes - August 20, 2025) be approved.

ROLL CALL:

Yeas: Arriaga, Bradley, Frost, Hein-Wang, Lonergan, Reddick, President Mullen

Nays: None

Abstain: Hicks

MOTION APPROVED 8-0

6. Res. 2025 - 09

[Approval of Temporary Closure](#)

President Mullen opened up the public comment period on Agenda Item 6.

No one spoke and the public comment period was closed.

MOTION by Arriaga, SECOND by HICKS, that Agenda Item 6 (Res. 2025 -09 Approval of Temporary Closure) be approved.

ROLL CALL:

Yeas: Arriaga, Bradley, Frost, Hein-Wang, Hicks, Lonergan, Reddick and President Mullen.

Nays: None

MOTION APPROVED 8-0

REPORTS

7. Director's Report

Laura Marlane, Executive Director

[September 2025 Report](#)

Laura Marlane, Executive Director, appeared and spoke, highlighting items from her report.

8. Advisory Committee Report

President Mullen reported the Central Library project is on track and thanked everyone for their help and participation in keeping things running smoothly.

9. Friends of Omaha Public Library

None

10. Omaha Public Library Foundation

Wendy Townley, Executive Director

[September 2025 Report](#)

Wendy Townley, Executive Director, spoke via Zoom highlighting items from her report.

11. Library Liaison Reports

Trustee Arriaga reported that she attended the *Solito* program at the Swanson Branch. Trustee Hein-Wang reported holding some meetings at the Downtown Branch and spoke about the pleasant meeting rooms and their windows.

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

12. Finance Committee

[September 2025 Finance Report](#)

Trustee Hicks thanked Wendy for her presentation.

13. Community Engagement Committee

Trustee Reddick reported that Trustee Jackson will be joining the committee.

14. Facilities Committee

None

15. Board President Report

President Mullen stated there will be more focused presentations in 2026 as well as Board Orientation on October 10th.

PUBLIC INPUT, COMMENTS, AND QUESTIONS

Any member of the public may address the Board on a topic of relevance to the Omaha Public Library, after identifying themselves by name and address for public record. Persons are to be brief and to limit themselves to five minutes or less. The President, or presiding officer, may use reasonable discretion to limit or extend a speaker's time to

avoid redundancy, to assure a thorough public discussion on matters before the Board, and to end discussion. Trustees may engage in questions and discussion of any topic presented, but any desired action will be placed on a future agenda.

16. Input, Comments, and Questions

President Mullen opened up the public comment period on Agenda Item 16.
No one spoke, and the public comment period was closed.

17. EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board may recess and go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing litigation, personnel issues, and/or any other matter allowed by law.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Reddick, SECOND by Bradley, that the meeting of the Omaha Public Library Board of Trustees be adjourned.

ROLL CALL:

Yeas: Arriaga, Bradley, Frost, Hein-Wang, Hicks, Lonergan, Reddick, President Mullen

Nays: None

MOTION APPROVED 8-0

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 6:22 PM.