

August OPL Board of Trustees' Meeting Minutes

Omaha Public Library

8/20/2025 5:00 PM @ Benson Branch, 6015 Binney St, Omaha, NE 68104

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Omaha Public Library Board of Trustees met on Wednesday, August 20, 2025 at the Benson Branch, 6015 Binney Street. President Mullen called the meeting to order at 5:04 pm.

Julie Wetherell, Recording Secretary, took the Roll Call:

ROLL CALL

Present:

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

Guest:

Laura Marlane

Absent:

Members: Cecil Hicks, Clarice Jackson, Dan Lonergan

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 August 17, 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

David Dick, Library Specialist, appeared and spoke. He shared important information about the branch. He also answered questions from the Board.

4. DEPARTMENT MANAGER REPORT/PRESENTATION

Amy Mather, Partnerships Manager, appeared and spoke, highlighting the work her Department does and answering questions from Board members.

ACTION ITEMS

President Mullen stated that 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. President Mullen stated that public comment and Board approval is today.

5. Approval of Minutes

President Mullen opened up the public comment period on Agenda Item 5, [June 18, 2025 Minutes](#). No one spoke, and the public comment period was closed.

MOTION by Reddick, SECOND by Bradley, that Agenda Item 5 (Approval of minutes - June 18, 2025) be approved.

ROLL CALL:

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

Nays: None

MOTION APPROVED 5-0

6. Res. 2025 - 07

[Approval of 2026 Holiday and Closing Dates](#)

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

No one spoke and the public comment period was closed.

MOTION by Reddick, SECOND by Frost, that Agenda Item 6 (Res. 2025 - 08 Approval of 2026 Holiday and Closing Dates) be approved.

ROLL CALL:

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

Nays: None

MOTION APPROVED 5-0

7. Res. 2025- 08

[Approval of revised Omaha Public Library policies](#)

President Mullen opened up the public comment period on Agenda Item 7.

No one spoke and the public comment period was closed.

MOTION by Bradley, SECOND by Reddick, that Agenda Item 7 (Res. 2025-08 Approval of revised Omaha Public Library policies) be approved.

ROLL CALL:

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

Nays: None

MOTION APPROVED 5-0

REPORTS

8. Director's Report

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

9. Advisory Committee Report

None

10. PR Committee Report

Trustee Hein-Wang reported that the PR Committee met for the last time earlier this month.

11. Friends of Omaha Public Library

None

12. Omaha Public Library Foundation

Wendy Townley, Executive Director, appeared and spoke, highlighting items from the [August 2025 Report](#).

13. Library Liaison Reports

Trustee Arriaga complimented the Omaha Reads selection and stated she has been telling her family, friends and community members more about what the library offers.

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

14. Finance Committee

[August 2025 Finance Report](#)

None

15. Community Engagement Committee

None

16. Facilities Committee

Trustee Reddick stated that they will be adding a new board member to this committee.

17. Board President Report

President Mullen welcomed the new board members. She stated there will be a board orientation in September and would like all the trustees to attend. She also stated she is attending numerous meetings for the Central Library.

PUBLIC INPUT, COMMENTS, AND QUESTIONS

President Mullen stated that 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.

18. Input, Comments, and Questions

President Mullen opened up the public comment period on Agenda Item 18. No one spoke, and the public comment period was closed.

19. 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 Hein-Wang, that the meeting of the Omaha Public Library Board of Trustees be adjourned.

ROLL CALL:

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

Nays: None

MOTION APPROVED 5-0

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 5:47 PM.