

November OPL Board of Trustees' Meeting Minutes

Omaha Public Library

11/19/2025 5:00 PM @ W. Clarke Swanson Branch, 9101 W Dodge Rd, Omaha, NE 68114

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Omaha Public Library Board of Trustees met on Wednesday, November 19, 2025 at the W. Clarke Swanson Branch at 9101 W. Dodge Road. President Mullen called the meeting to order at 5:02.

Julie Wetherell, Recording Secretary, took the Roll Call:

ROLL CALL

Present:

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

Guests: Laura Marlane

Absent:

Members: Joseph Bradley

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 November 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

Natalie Struecker, Branch Manager, appeared and spoke. She shared important information about the branch. She also answered questions from the Board.

4. DEPARTMENT MANAGER REPORT/PRESENTATION

Maggie Petersen, Outreach Manager, appeared and spoke, highlighting the work her department does and answering questions from Board members.

5. CENTRAL LIBRARY PRESENTATION

Ranae Keckeisen from Heritage Omaha led the presentation which highlighted everyone's role in bring the Central Library to completion.

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.*

6. Approval of minutes

[October 15, 2025](#)

President Mullen opened up the public comment period on Agenda Item 6, the October 15, 2025 minutes. No one spoke and the public comment period was closed.

MOTION by Reddick, SECOND by Hein-Wang, that Agenda Item 6 (Approval of minutes - October 15, 2025) be approved.

ROLL CALL:

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

Nays: None

MOTION APPROVED 8-0

7. Resolution 2025-11

[Resolution for a 2-Day Temporary Closure of Millard Branch](#)

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

No one spoke and the public comment period was closed.

MOTION by Hicks, SECOND by Hein-Wang, that Agenda Item 7 (Res. 2025-11 Resolution for 2-Day Temporary Closure of Millard Branch) be approved.

ROLL CALL:

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

Nays: None

MOTION APPROVED 8-0

REPORTS

8. Director's Report

[November 2025 Director's Report](#)

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

9. Advisory Committee Report

President Mullen stated a meeting was held by the Advisory Committee on November 6th.

10. Friends of Omaha Public Library

[Friends of Omaha Public Library](#)

Megan Hope, President, appeared and spoke, highlighting new things on the horizon.

11. Omaha Public Library Foundation

[November 2025 Foundation Report](#)

Wendy Townley, Executive Director, introduced new Executive Director Adrienne Perry.

12. Library Liaison Reports

Library Trustee Hicks said he visited the Elkhorn Branch. Library Trustee Hein-Wang said she spoke with her branch manager at the construction completion event.

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

13. Finance Committee

[November 2025 Finance Report](#)

14. Community Engagement Committee

15. Facilities Committee

16. Board President Report

Rochelle Mullen

President Rochelle Mullen thanked the staff and Heritage for their hard work in preparing the Central Library Branch.

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.

17. Input, Comments, and Questions

18. 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 Hein-Wang, SECOND by Reddick, that the meeting of the Omaha Public Library Board of Trustees be adjourned.

ROLL CALL:

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

Nays: None

MOTION APPROVED 8-0

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 6:45 P.M.