

**FINKELSTEIN MEMORIAL LIBRARY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
REGULAR MEETING/MARCH 26, 2025
MINUTES**

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Trustees was held both in person and by video conference on Wednesday, March 26, 2025. The meeting was recorded in accordance with law.

Mr. Alexandre called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m. with the following members present:

Mr. Denet Alexandre, Presiding
Ms. Darnett Davis, Vice President (arrived at 6:49 p.m.)
Ms. Esther Waldman
Ms. Joan Soskin
Mr. James Johnson
Ms. Sandra Duncan (absent)

Administrative Personnel Present:

Ms. Laura Wolven, Library Director
Ms. Beth Zambito, Assistant Library Director
Mr. Andrew Koblick, Business Manager
Ms. Leah Levine, Library Clerk

Others Present:

Susanne Daley, Union President (zoom)
Ana Cabrera, Staff (zoom)
Chris Coleman, Staff (zoom)
Elizabeth Portillo, Staff (zoom)
Judy Joseph, Staff (zoom)
Kathleen Preston, Staff (zoom)
Laurie Needell, Staff (zoom)
Nathalie Jean Paul, Staff (zoom)
Richard Morbeth, Staff (zoom)
Elizabeth Marcus, Staff (zoom)
IT Zoom Class
Adriane Fabio, Patron

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

A **motion** was made by Ms. Waldman, seconded by Mr. Johnson and carried to **approve the agenda for March 26, 2025.**

President's Report- Mr. Alexandre reported that he looked over the Conflict of Interest Disclosure Forms.

A **motion** was made by Ms. Soskin, seconded by Ms. Waldman to **approve the minutes of the regular meeting of February 26, 2025 with any corrections.**

A **motion** was made by Ms. Waldman, seconded by Ms. Soskin and carried to **approve the bill list presented for February 2025.**

A **motion** was made by Ms. Waldman, seconded by Ms. Davis and carried to **approve the Financial Report.**

Library Statistical Report- The statistical report for February 2025 will be filed with the minutes of the meeting.

Library Director's Report- The report was presented.

Union Representative Report- Ms. Susanne Daley, Union President did not have anything to report, but inquired on the Salary portion of the 2025 Library Budget. She requested if the salary can be separated between Union and Non-Union employees.

Public Comment- Adriane Fabio, Head of Adult Services from the Pearl River Public Library was in attendance during the meeting. She is currently taking a course where part of her education is to attend Public Library Board Meetings.

Correspondence Received- February 2025 was Love your Library month, where children and families wrote what they loved about the Library on hearts that were posted in the Youth Services Department. Maria Vanessa Cipolla from Adult Services was complimented for her assistance by Library Friends member Jonathan Eig.

Committee Report –

Budget and Finance – The committee reported they have approved the 5.9% Budget of the prior year's tax levy.

Personnel – None

Advocacy and Fundraising – None

By-Laws and Policy – Ms. Waldman reported regarding the By-Laws and Youth Spaces & Usage Policy.

Strategic Planning – None

Buildings and Grounds – None. The Library is anticipating an April 2025 date for the demolition of the Enrichment Center.

Unfinished Business:

A **motion** was made by Ms. Davis, seconded by Mr. Johnson and carried to **approve the 2024 RCLS Annual Report.** Ms. Waldman abstained due to lack of review of the report before submission.

A **motion** was made by Ms. Waldman, as the By-laws and Policy Chair, seconded by Ms. Davis and carried to **approve the Trustee By-Laws Policy and Youth Spaces Usage & Safety Policy with changes made.**

New Business:

A **motion** was made by Ms. Davis, seconded by Ms. Soskin and carried to **approve the posting of a Permanent Part- Time Library Assistant in the Adult Services Department in order to manage the upcoming Passport Center.**

A **motion** was made by Ms. Davis, seconded by Mr. Johnson and carried to **approve the appointment of Isabelle Molle, Library Assistant in the Youth Services Department, effective March 10, 2025.**

A **motion** was made by Ms. Waldman, seconded by Ms. Davis and carried to **continue the Library Insurance Policy with United Assurance.**

Resolution

The **motion to approve the merge of NYLAF (New York State Liquid Asset Fund) to NYCLASS Local Government Investment Pool was put to a vote, and passed unanimously. – See Resolution**

The **motion to override the Tax Cap for the Finkelstein Memorial Library 2025-2026 budget was put to a vote, and passed unanimously.** – See Resolution

Ms. Waldman presented the Board of Trustees as part of her policy report with documentation regarding a Notice of Written Complaint against Board President Denet Alexandre. Ms. Waldman requested a Special Meeting between the dates of March 31, 2025 and April 11, 2025 to discuss this complaint further with the Board of Trustees. Ms. Waldman requested that the meeting not come to adjournment until the date of the Special Meeting is scheduled. The date of the Special Meeting was tabled.

The date of the future Board Meeting has been scheduled for April 23, 2025 following the Public Hearing.

A **motion** was made by Ms. Davis, seconded by Ms. Soskin and carried to **adjourn.** Ms. Waldman abstained.

The meeting of the board of trustees was adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

THE NEXT REGULAR MOTNHLY MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES WILL BE HELD ON WEDNESDAY, APRIL 23, 2025 FOLLOWING THE PUBLIC HEARING.

Respectfully submitted.



Denet Alexandre

President, Board of Trustees
(Notes taken by Leah Levine)