

**FINKELSTEIN MEMORIAL LIBRARY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
SPECIAL MEETING/MARCH 17, 2026
MINUTES**

The special meeting of the Board of Trustees was held both in-person and by video conference on Wednesday, March 17, 2026. The meeting was recorded in accordance with law and a quorum was present.

Ms. Darnett Davis, President, called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m. with the following members present: Ms. Yehudis Gottesfeld, Secretary, Ms. Esther Waldman, Vice President, Mr. Yossi Rubinsten, Mr. James Johnson, and Ms. Oluswaseyi Banjo (trustee as of March 17, 2026)

Ms. Joan Soskin was present over the phone (left at 8:02pm)

Administrative Personnel:

Ms. Laura Wolven, Library Director, Library Clerk, Mr. Andrew Koblick, Business Manager

Others Present:

Mendy Glick, Library Treasurer, Abraham Weiss (arrived 7:35pm and left shortly afterwards)

Others Present via Zoom:

Stephanie Adams, Library's Attorney, Rachel Goldstein, Shmuli's iphone, Robert Rowe, Samsung SM-A, Rae, Judy Joseph, Mark Svensson, Ali Miller, Kathleen Preston, TW, G, Israel Goldstein, Steven's iPhone, Parveen Rahmet, Sussi R, Dana, Jay Levin, Israel Goldstein, Joseph Lichtenstein, Baruch, Isaac Klitnick, Joel Friedman, Ariel Dahan, Yitz, Mayer Hoffman, Sarah iPhone, Jeff, Yosef Lichtenstein, Joseph Kaufman, Marc Kohn, Helen M, Jonathan's iphone, GMR, iPhone

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

A **motion** was made by Ms. Davis, seconded by Ms. Gottesfeld, and carried to **approve the agenda**.

Ms. Waldman requested adding finance report; committee met and submitted; Ms. Davis declined per agenda.

A **motion** was made by Ms. Waldman, seconded by Mr. Rubinsten, and **failed** to add a report from the finance committee to the agenda.

Appointment of New Trustee

A **motion** was made by Ms. Davis, seconded by Mr. Johnson, and carried to **appoint Ms. Oluswaseyi Banjo as a new trustee of the library until the end of the fiscal year.**

Ms. Banjo took the Oath of Office and assumed full responsibility of a trustee at 7:10pm.

VDI Information for Renewal

VDI renewal presented by Ms. Wolven and Mr. Robert Rowe (library's chief information IT officer); the library's attorney advised for the information to be presented in a resolution with contract format. Ms. Davis **tabled it to the next meeting.**

Resolution for Legal Counsel

A **motion** was made by Ms. Davis, seconded by Mr. Johnson, and **failed** to approve the resolution for the Library's Attorney to work with civil service to create titles that are needed by the library.

Ms. Waldman raised concerns over the director and board president meeting with an employee without the board's full knowledge.

An **amendment to the motion** was made by Ms. Waldman, seconded by Ms. Gottesfeld, and carried **to change the words "board representative" to "board president"**.

An **amendment to the motion** was made by Ms. Waldman, seconded by Mr. Rubinstein, and **failed** to change the date written from "March 25" to "March 18".

Budget Options (Resolution to Override Tax Cap if necessary)

A **motion** was made by Ms. Davis, seconded by Mr. Johnson, and carried to **approve the 4.5% tax levy for the budget vote.**

A **motion** was made by Ms. Waldman, seconded by Mr. Rubinstein, and **failed** to write in the minutes that the budget was passed without full scrutiny from select individuals.

Ms. Davis called for a roll call vote in the resolution to override the tax cap, votes were tallied as follows: Ms. Davis, yes; Mr. Johnson, yes; Ms. Soskin, absent; Ms. Gottesfeld, yes; Ms. Waldman, no; Mr. Rubinstein, no; Ms. Banjo, yes.

Question and Answer (3 minutes)

A **motion** was made by Ms. Waldman, seconded by Mr. Rubinstein, and carried to **have the library's attorney draft an amendment to the bylaws amendment by the April 15th board meeting.**

A **motion** was made by Ms. Waldman, seconded by Mr. Rubinstein, and carried to **"Be it resolved that the bylaws and policy committee shall set a date for a committee meeting at least a week before the April regular meeting to meet with the attorney on proposed revisions pertaining to section 12 of the bylaws regarding committees, and the attorney is instructed to cap the use of attorney time at 3 attorney hours or less"**.

Ms. Davis announced that the board shall return to conducting regular committee meetings, in accordance with open meetings law, and **tabled** the discussion of how often to meet and when reports shall be turned in **for the monthly March or April board meeting.**

A **motion** was made by Ms. Davis, seconded by Ms. Gottesfeld, and carried **to change the March board meeting to Wednesday March 25th at 6:30pm.**

A **motion** was made by Ms. Waldman, seconded by Mr. Rubinstein, and **failed** to reflect in the minutes that Ms. Waldman's vote was no to the board meeting date change due to religious difficulty.

A **motion** was made by Ms. Waldman, seconded by Mr. Rubinstein, and **failed** as no further vote was called for to move the March board meeting back to March 18.

Special Meeting date to be announced.

Ms. Davis reported that she will schedule a special meeting at a later date via email

A **motion** was made by Ms. Davis, seconded by Ms. Gottesfeld, and carried to **adjourn the meeting.**

Meeting adjourned at 8:59pm.

The next regular board meeting at the library will be held on Wednesday March 25, 2025 at 6:30pm