

**FINKELSTEIN MEMORIAL LIBRARY  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
SPECIAL MEETING/JANUARY 7, 2026  
MINUTES**

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Trustees was held both in person and by video conference on Wednesday, January 7, 2026. The meeting was recorded in accordance with law.

Ms. Darnett Davis, President called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m. with the following members present:

Ms. Esther Waldman, Vice President, Ms. Joan Soskin, Ms. Goldie Golding, Ms. Yehudis Gottesfeld (arrived at 6:37 p.m.)

**Board Members excused:**

Mr. James Johnson  
Mr. Yossi Rubinstein

**Administrative Personnel:**

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

**Others Present in person:**

Mr. Mendy Glick, Library Treasurer (arrived at 6:33 p.m.)

**Others Present via zoom:**

Kathleen Preston (staff), John Ninivaggi (staff), Judy Joseph (staff), Parveen Rahmet (staff), DA (full name not provided), momsipad (Dipa Thakkar, staff).

The Pledge of allegiance was recited.

*Ms. Davis gave a written report.*

A **motion** was made by Ms. Soskin, seconded by Ms. Golding and carried to **approve the Agenda with changes.**

A motion was made by Ms. Waldman, seconded by Ms. Soskin and carried to **approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of September 17, 2025 with edits.**

A motion was made by Ms. Waldman, seconded by Ms. Golding and carried to **approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of November 19, 2025 with edits.**

The November 2025 Financial Statements have been tabled for the Regular Meeting of January 21, 2026.

**Library Statistical Report:** The report for November 2025 was presented.

A **motion** was made by Ms. Waldman, seconded by Ms. Davis and carried to **approve the Bill List for January 7, 2026.**

A **motion** was made by Ms. Davis, seconded by Ms. Golding and carried to **approve Ms. Soskin as an approved 3<sup>rd</sup> signer for M&T Bank on checks greater than \$10K if Mr. Glick or Ms. Davis are not available.**

A **motion** was made by Ms. Davis, seconded by Ms. Soskin to **confirm the Board Meeting locations for 2026 to be held in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Board Room in Administration, as long as the sign “no patrons beyond this point” is taken down for meetings, passed with 4 votes in favor.**

Ms. Waldman voted no.

A **motion** was made by Ms. Gottesfeld, seconded by Ms. Waldman and carried to **move the Compliance & Oversight portion of the agenda to executive session.**

A **motion** was made by Ms. Waldman, seconded by Ms. Davis and carried to **approve the appointment of Maribeth Durivage, Library Assistant, Adult Services Department, effective November 24, 2025.**

A **motion** was made by Ms. Davis, seconded by Ms. Golding and carried to **approve the appointment of Isabelle Molle, Librarian I, Youth Services Department, effective November 24, 2025.**

Approval of Makerspace Windows was discussed. The Board is requesting a second quote.

A **motion** was made by Ms. Waldman, seconded by Ms. Golding and **carried to add the accordion door on the January 21, 2026 Board Meeting Agenda.**

Contract Approval – Cleaning Company was discussed and tabled.

The Personnel Policy was discussed and tabled for the January 21, 2026 Board Meeting.

A **motion** was made by Ms. Gottesfeld, seconded by Ms. Waldman and carried to **fill a Library Assistant (French/Creole-Speaking) position in the Youth Services Department.**

A **motion** was made by Ms. Gottesfeld, seconded by Ms. Waldman and carried to **move into executive session.**

**The Board moved into executive session at 8:09 p.m.**

A **motion** was made by Ms. Soskin, seconded by Ms. Gottesfeld and carried to **move out of executive session.**

The Board moved out of executive session at 8:33 p.m.

Legal matters were discussed.

A motion was made by Ms. Waldman, seconded by Ms. Golding to refer the Policy Committee to review the Library Procurement Policy. Motion failed with 3 votes Yes. Ms. Davis abstained, Ms. Soskin voted no.

A motion was made by Ms. Davis, seconded by Ms. Soskin and carried to have communication with the Library lawyer be through the Library Director, President, and Secretary.

A motion was made by Ms. Waldman, seconded by Ms. Golding for the Library lawyer to set up a legal drive that was offered for efficient communication between the attorney and Library Board. Motion failed.

Ms. Davis abstained, Ms. Gottesfeld abstained, Ms. Soskin abstained.

A motion was made by Ms. Waldman, seconded by Ms. Gottesfeld to add the Tablet Policy to the January 21, 2026 Board Meeting Agenda.

A motion was made by Ms. Waldman, seconded by Ms. Gottesfeld and carried to adjourn.

The meeting of the board of trustees was adjourned at 8:44 p.m.

THE NEXT REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES WILL BE HELD ON WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 21, 2025.

Respectfully submitted.



Yehudis Gottesfeld  
Secretary

(Notes taken by Leah Levine, Clerk to the Board of Trustees)



Darnett Davis  
Board President