

**FINKELSTEIN MEMORIAL LIBRARY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
SPECIAL MEETING/SEPTEMBER 2, 2026
MINUTES**

The special meeting of the Board of Trustees was held both in person and by video conference on Wednesday, September 2, 2026. The meeting was recorded in accordance with law.

Board Members Present:

Ms. Esther Waldman, President, called the meeting to order at 6:34 p.m. with the following members present: Mr. Yossi Rubinstein, Vice President, Ms. Oluwaseyi Banjo, Ms. Yehudis Gottesfeld, Mr. Ariel Dahan (zoom).

Board Members Excused:

Ms. Darnett Davis and Mr. James Johnson.

Administrative Personnel:

Ms. Beth Zambito, Assistant Library Director

Others Present in-person:

Patron (name not recorded)

Others Present via zoom:

Stephanie Cole Adams (Library Attorney), Grace Riario (Executive Director of the Ramapo Catskill Library System), Isabelle Molle (staff), Kathleen Preston (staff), Elizabeth Portillo (staff), Robert Rowe (staff), Parveen Rahmet (staff), Charles W. (patron), Laurie Needell (staff), Jeff Liz (staff), Marc (last name not provided), zoom user (name not provided).

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

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

A **motion** was made by Ms. Waldman, seconded by Mr. Rubinstein, and carried unanimously to **move into executive session to discuss the employment history of a specific employee**.

The board moved into executive session at 6:36 p.m.

Action motion to move into executive session not recorded.

The board moved out of executive session at 7:21 p.m.

Action motion to move out of executive session not recorded.

Ms. Waldman recited the resolution regarding Director Transition process.

Resolution:

WHEREAS the Library Director has tendered her resignation effective September 7, 2026;
and

WHEREAS the Library and the community will benefit from the Board organizing a strong finish to the Director's service; and

WHEREAS the Library and the community will benefit from the Board organizing a productive and mission-focused period of interim leadership; and

WHEREAS the Library and community will benefit from the Board organizing a thoughtful and thorough search for the next permanent Director; and

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board acknowledges the resignation and authorizes the President and Vice President to work with the Library's legal counsel, the Library system, Rockland County Civil Service, and other appropriate resources to take steps to effect a strong finish, with the understanding that expenditures for such steps, beyond current budget limits, must be authorized by the Board; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board appoints President, Vice President as the "Ad Hoc Director Transition Committee", to oversee details of the strong finish, interim leadership period, and search process; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that "Library Director Transition" shall be a standing item on the agenda until those initiatives are concluded, with the understanding the some of the matters under consideration will be reviewed in executive session.

A **motion** was made by Ms. Gottesfeld, seconded by Ms. Banjo and carried unanimously to **accept the resolution regarding Director Transition process.**

A **motion** was made by Ms. Gottesfeld, seconded by Mr. Rubinstein and carried unanimously to **adjourn.**

The meeting of the board of trustees was adjourned at 7:23 p.m.

The next regular board meeting at the library will be held on Wednesday September 23, 2026 at 6:30pm

Respectfully submitted.

Minutes taken by Leiah Levine, Clerk to the Board of Trustees (via video recording and notes taken by Beth Zambito, Assistant Library Director)

Esther Waldman
Board President