



BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES

Nov. 19, 2025

In Attendance

Trustees: Holley Barreto, Robert Ginsberg, Jeffrey Liao, Stephanie Oster, Sebnem Tuzun, Chris Van Buren

Library Staff: Erica Bess, Laura Bishop, Janie Hermann, JiHae Ju, Jennifer Podolsky, Karen Rackley, Sonja Vloeberghs

Teen Reps: Carina He

At 6:03 p.m. Mr. Van Buren called the meeting to order and announced that pursuant to the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act, notice of this meeting was provided as part of the annual schedule of meetings to the municipal clerk, Princeton Packet, Town Topics and Trenton Times on Jan. 3, 2025. The notice was posted in the library, on the library's and municipality's websites and has remained continuously posted as the required notices under the Statute. In addition, a copy of this notice is and has been available to the public and is on file in the library's Administration Office.

Approval of Consent Agenda – Ms. Tuzun motioned to approve the Consent Agenda; Ms. Oster seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Mr. Ginsberg abstained. The motion passed unanimously.

- Oct. 14, 2025 Meeting Minutes
- Final October Bills
- Preliminary November Bills

Board Materials – There was no discussion on the Monthly Director's Report or the Monthly Statistics.

Public Comment - No public comments.

President's Report - Mr. Van Buren thanked the staff for their dedication to the library and the community. He wished everyone a happy Thanksgiving.

Friends and Foundation Report - Ms. Barreto noted that the Friends and Foundation board will meet on Nov. 24 and hope to have a slate of new board members. They are still accepting applications for board members; please contact Ms. Keesling. She noted the last event of the year is, Jessica Pearce Rotundi author of "What We Inherit: A Secret War and a Family's Search for Answers" on Dec. 2.

Over the next couple of months, the board will analyze the numbers to determine the net amount from Friends and Foundation events in 2025. The new model worked well with regard to staff and board members' time. The new model seems to have improved donor satisfaction, and gives an opportunity to provide a more consistent message about giving throughout the year. The board plans to continue with this model.

The endowment is on track and will have added more than \$100,000; an update will be provided in December.

The annual book sale raised \$29,652.

Teen Representative - Carine He noted that for Media Literacy Week, teens led an intergenerational Jeopardy-type game about digital media literacy with discussion questions and a resource guide. The Teen Advisory Board recorded two new podcast episodes which will be posted on Spotify and shared across social media. The next podcast recording will be "Does the appearance of the actor matter more than their acting abilities?"

TAB is hosting a Jolabokafloð (Book Flood) which is an Icelandic tradition. This high school edition will be held on Dec. 9 at which high school students are invited for games, hot chocolate and a book swap with wrapped books brought in from home with the first line of the book on the outside of the wrapping.

Ms. He noted there have been six social media posts over the past two months. Posts highlighting collaborations did especially well and are used for book recommendations and upcoming events. There were 358 views out of 3 posts for book recs and resources.

TAB will be collaborating with Princeton University (KoKo Pops) and Princeton High School (Bibimbops) K-Pop Dance clubs for a K-Pop Dance Party in January, and with the Municipal Boards for their annual a cappella night in February.

Finance Committee Report - There was no report.

Personnel Committee Report - Ms. Tuzun noted that the committee will meet on Dec. 1 to discuss the nominations for the open board seat.

Policy Committee Report - Mr. Ginsberg noted the committee met and discussed non-resident cards.

Strategic Oversight Committee Report - There was no report.

Fundraising Report - Ms. Barreto noted that the annual appeal is on track to meet the goal of \$350,000. 1600 annual appeal letters were sent. She noted that Ms. Keesling said the Gliving Takes Over campaign has had a positive response so far and has seen some early giving as a result. Anecdotally, they are seeing an increase of donors returning that have stopped giving.

Director's Report - Ms. Podolsky referred the board to the BoardBuzz on the board website. She mentioned the third floor furniture refresh, the delay in the opening of the Spark Lab, an influx of students on a testing day the library was uninformed of and how staff from all departments pitched in to ensure everyone was following the Code of Conduct. She also noted that applications are being accepted for a manager of Marketing and Communications.

Unfinished Business - There was no unfinished business.

Correspondence - There was no correspondence.

2026 Library Holidays and Closings Schedule - Mr. Ginsberg motioned to approve the 2026 Library Holidays and Closings Schedule; Ms. Oster seconded the motion. Ms. Barreto inquired about staff development day; Ms. Podolsky noted that once decided, the date is presented to the board for approval to close the library. The motion passed unanimously.

Resolution 2025-27: Disposal of Surplus Property - Third Floor Furniture - Mr. Ginsberg motioned to approve Resolution 2025-27; Ms. Tuzun seconded the motion. Mr. Liao asked about the type of disposal; Ms. Podolsky noted there are state mandated ways of disposing of library property. The motion passed unanimously.

Resolution 2025-28: Cafe Vendor Award - Mr. Ginsberg motioned to approve Resolution 2025-28; Ms. Oster seconded the motion. There was discussion on the number of bids requested; the relationship with Jammin' Crepes and the evaluation process which was performed in the same manner for one bidder as it would have been for multiple bidders. The motion passed unanimously.

Board Comment - There was no board comment.

Proposed Agenda Items - There were no proposed agenda items.

Resolution 2025-29: Executive Session - Mr. Ginsberg motioned to approve Resolution 2025-29 and enter into closed session to discuss personnel matters; Ms. Tuzun seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

The board met in closed session to discuss personnel matters. Trustees in attendance: Ms. Barreto, Mr. Ginsberg, Mr. Liao, Ms. Oster, Ms. Tuzun, Mr. Van Buren. No action was taken as a result of the closed session.

At 7:37 p.m., Ms. Oster motioned to return to open session; Mr. Ginsberg seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Adjournment – Mr. Ginsberg motioned to adjourn the meeting; Mr. Liao seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 7:37 p.m.

The next Board meeting is scheduled for Dec. 17, 2025.