

SOMERVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING, April 8, 2026

Minutes

ATTENDING

TRUSTEES: Kate Van Sleet, April Kuehnhoff, Sarah Pascarella, Carla Lillvik, Mark Sternman, Ami Feldman, Janaki Perera, Michael Smith

ABSENT: Anandavalli Thiagarajan

DIRECTOR: Cathy Piantigini

CALL TO ORDER

President Van Sleet called the meeting of the Library Board of Trustees to order at 6:03 pm.

MINUTES

Ami Feldman motioned to approve the minutes as amended. Carla Lillvik seconded and the minutes were unanimously adopted.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

1. The Director had to submit a new budget proposal to the City with a 5% reduction. The proposal would eliminate funding for office furniture, out of state travel, web maintenance, and programs and performances. The proposal also includes decreased funding proposals for the library of things and online subscriptions (Hoopla, Kanopy, Overdrive Advantage, and LinkedIn Learning). It is still unclear whether these budget cuts will be necessary.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

1. Mayor Wilson will be attending the Library Trustee meeting in June.
2. The Somerville Library Foundation will be using \$100,000 from its funds to pay for items for the libraries.

COMMITTEES

1. Communications Committee - Discussed content for the next newsletter.

NEW BUSINESS

1. **Mission Statement, Vision Statement, and Customer Service Standards** - Trustees reviewed this document. Mark Sternman moved to approve the document with proposed edits, Carla Lillvik seconded, and the document was unanimously approved.
2. **Standards of Library Behavior Policy** - Trustees reviewed this document. Kate Van Sleet moved to approve the document with the proposed edits and a review by the law department, Janaki Perera seconded, and the document was unanimously approved.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business and no objection, the President declared the meeting adjourned at 7:58 pm.

NEXT MEETING: The next regular meeting of the Trustees will be held on May 13, 2026 at 6:00 pm. The open meeting will take place in the Director's Office at the Central Branch Library.

April Kuehnhoff, Secretary