

YONKERS PUBLIC LIBRARY
MONTHLY MEETING
GRINTON I. WILL LIBRARY
OCTOBER 16, 2025

ATTENDANCE

TRUSTEES:	Nancy Maron Joseph Puglia Stephen Jannetti Patricia Phelan Ofunne Edoziem
LIBRARY DIRECTOR:	Jesse Montero
ASSISTANT LIBRARY DIRECTOR:	Shauna Porteus
BUSINESS MANAGER:	Vivian Presedo
ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY:	James Hackett
WLS BOARD REPRESENTATIVE:	NONE
UNION REPRESENTATIVE:	Brandon Neider
GUESTS:	Tara Somersall, Patricia Ricardo-Ortiz, Z. Baird, Connie Cullen

The Board Meeting began at 7:01 pm.

MINUTES

On motion of Trustee Puglia, seconded by Trustee Jannetti and unanimously carried, the Board approved the Minutes of the Meeting of September 18, 2025.

MANAGEMENT REPORT

Director Montero updated the Board on staff news. Librarian Trainee Erik Malave received his public librarian's certificate and was promoted to Librarian I on October 10. On the same day, librarians Jessica Neto, Diane Mignault, Benedict Cosgrove and Amanda Ospina were all provisionally promoted to Librarian II. He added that as part of her promotion Ms. Mignault would be transferring to the Will Library as a collection specialist where she will lead strategy, inventory and projects aimed at creating more data-informed and patron-responsive collection policies, and Charlie Loftus would begin to split his time between the adult services and children's departments at Riverfront where he can pursue more inclusive services and programming.

Director Montero discussed ongoing collaboration with Yonkers Public Schools (YPS). Two librarians, Renee Rabadi and Eileen Fusco, have accepted coordinator roles focused on strengthening YPL's partnership with YPS. Their responsibilities include coordinating outreach, promoting library access and resources and providing training and professional development for educators. In addition to Ms. Rabadi and Ms. Fusco, 22 other library staff also attended 28 different open houses at various schools throughout the district. This collaboration builds on a successful summer reading program and Director Montero also noted that the Superintendent of Schools already reached out to inquire about more library card signups and enhanced digital access for students.

Director Montero reported on library programming and outreach. YPL celebrated Hispanic Heritage Month with dozens of programs, including film screenings, book discussions, genealogy workshops and cultural performances; special events included a lecture on murals and mosaics in Spanish Harlem and an exhibition of artwork by Mexican artist Jorge Manjarrez at Riverfront Library. Riverfront also hosted Yonkers Comic Con on September 27 in partnership with Yonkers Arts. The event, which drew over 4,200 visitors to Riverfront that day, featured over 20 individual events, including interviews with comic book creators and a trade show with over 15 vendors.

Trustee Edoziem arrived at 7:10 pm.

Director Montero announced that the Foundation for Yonkers Public Library (FYPL) received a \$25,000 grant from Con Edison for the Yonkers Seeding Change Initiative (YSCI). The grant will be used to sustain the popular Seed Library program, environmentally clean STEM programs and camps, and landscaping projects at Will Library. Director Montero noted that YPL is the only library outside of New York City to receive this grant.

Director Montero updated the Board on the status of the chiller project at Will. The project is substantially complete, with all three new chillers installed, tested and activated. The temporary chiller was returned on September 25, three weeks earlier than anticipated. However there is a planned three-day shutdown beginning November 3 to replace the building's outdated electrical switchgear as part of the project. These dates were scheduled around the library's closing for Election Day to minimize disruption to the public. Following this, the final walkthrough and punch list will be conducted to formally close out the project.

UNION REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT

NONE

PERSONNEL REPORT

On motion of Trustee Jannetti, seconded by Trustee Puglia and unanimously carried, the Board ratified the following appointments:

Ashitey, Angela; Junior Clerk (P/T), \$16.50/hr, eff. 9/13/2025

Rodriguez, Jaslene; Page (P/T), \$16.50/hr, eff. 9/13/2025

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Revellese, Catherine; Provisional Librarian II (P/T), \$25.35 /hr, eff. 9/26/2025
Cosgrove, Benedict; Provisional Librarian II, \$71,525/yr, eff. 10/10/2025
Neto, Jessica; Provisional Librarian II, \$71,525/yr, eff. 10/10/2025
Mignault, Diane; Provisional Librarian II, \$71,525/yr, eff. 10/10/2025
Ospina, Amanda; Provisional Librarian II, \$71,525/yr, eff. 10/10/2025
Malave, Erik; Permanent Librarian I, \$62,281/yr, eff. 10/10/2025

Acknowledged the following terminations:

Pineda, Adriana; Junior Clerk (P/T), \$16.50/hr, eff. 10/13/2025

The Board of Trustees acknowledged and accepted the retirement of Kathleen DiSilvio (Librarian II, \$92,064/year) with the following resolution on motion of Trustee Puglia, seconded by Trustee Phelan, and unanimously carried:

Be it resolved, that the Board of Trustees of Yonkers Public Library hereby accepts the irrevocable resignation of Kathleen DiSilvio for the purpose of retirement effective at the close of business on November 6, 2025.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance, Budget and Planning - Treasurer Puglia (chair), Trustee Jannetti

On motion of Trustee Jannetti, seconded by Trustee Edoziem and unanimously carried, the Board authorized Business Manager to renew or find the best rates for the following CDs scheduled to expire:

11/15/2025 John Jutkowitz Theater Fund: Sunnyside Federal Savings & Loans Bank, 13 mo. CD, \$11,077.95, 3.90%

11/15/2025 David S. Kogan Memorial Fund: Sunnyside Federal Savings & Loans Bank, 13 mo. CD, \$5,233.16, 3.90%

11/15/2025 Rita G. Murphy Memorial Fund: Sunnyside Federal Savings & Loans Bank, 13 mo. CD, \$5,525.36, 3.90%

11/15/2025 Contributions Fund: Sunnyside Federal Savings & Loans Bank, 13 mo. CD, \$65,867.11, 3.90%

11/15/2025 Contributions Fund: Sunnyside Federal Savings & Loan Bank, 13 mo. CD, \$55,620.09, 3.90%

Fundraising & Development - Vice President Daily (chair)

Foundation Update: President Maron reported that the Foundation was delighted to receive the \$25,000 grant from ConEd and was pleased that it will be used to continue funding the Seed Library, STEM programming and landscaping at Will Library. She also reported that the Foundation was awaiting confirmation from its guest of honor for the next gala and expected to announce a date soon.

WLS REPORT

Trustee Phelan reported that the annual Battle of the Books program will be held on Saturday, October 25 at Ossining Public Library and if anyone was interested in volunteering she would forward more information.

President Maron also took a moment to remind trustees of their requirement to fulfill two hours of professional development before the end of the year. She offered to share more information with anyone who was interested.

PAYMENT OF BILLS

On motion of Trustee Puglia, seconded by Trustee Edoziem and unanimously carried, the Board approved payment of bills as listed on Schedules #880.

NEW BUSINESS

On motion of Trustee Jannetti, seconded by Trustee Edoziem and unanimously carried, the Board voted to close the library early at 12:00 pm on Wednesday, December 24, 2025.

Director Montero presented the proposed schedule of holiday closings for 2026. On motion of Trustee Jannetti, seconded by Trustee Phelan and unanimously carried, the Board approved closing the library according to the proposed holiday schedule.

NEXT MEETING DATE

Thursday, November 20, 2025 at 7:00pm at Riverfront Library

On motion of Trustee Puglia, seconded by Trustee Jannetti and unanimously carried, the Board adjourned the Meeting at 7:29 pm.

Jesse Montero
Library Director & Secretary