

UPPER SADDLE RIVER LIBRARY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
February 18, 2026

	Present	Absent
Miriam Bakal	X	
Dennis DeBenedetto	X	
Maria-Elena DeGregorio	X (arrived at 6:20 pm)	
Erica Fields	X	
Robin Friedman	X	
Kathyrn Ennist, Director	X	
Louisa Quarto, Alternate to the Mayor	X	
Kerri Parelhoff, Alternate to the Superintendent	X	

Miriam Bakal called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Pursuant to the Open Sunshine Act P.L. 1975, Chapter 231, proper notice of this meeting has been provided by submitting appropriate notice to The Ridgewood News and The Record by Fax; it has been posted on the Library Bulletin Board; and notice was sent to the Borough of Upper Saddle River, at which time, the date, time, place and purpose of the meeting was set forth.

Miriam Bakal took a roll call for attendance: Bakal- yes, DeBenedetto – yes, DeGregorio- yes, Fields – yes, Friedman- yes, Quarto – yes, Parelhoff – yes.

Robin Friedman made a motion, seconded by Miriam Bakal to accept the minutes of the December 17, 2025 minutes. The motion was unanimously approved

The meeting was opened to the public for comment. No one from the public was present.

Correspondence: None.

Financial: Robin Friedman presented the Schedule of Revenues and Expenses from January 1, 2026 through January 31, 2026. Miriam Bakal made a motion, seconded by Robin Friedman to accept the following resolution: Be it resolved that the attached Schedule of Revenue and Expenses from January 1, 2026 through January 31, 2026 be approved. The motion was unanimously approved.

Robin Friedman presented the check and voucher register from January 22, 2026 through February 18, 2026. Miriam Bakal made a motion, seconded by Robin Friedman to accept the following resolution: Be it resolved that the attached schedule of revenues and expenses from January 22, 2026 through February 19, 2026 be approved. The motion was unanimously approved.

Buildings & Grounds report: Dennis DeBenedetto advised the Board that the Buildings and Grounds committee met and he is putting together a new budget proposal for the sidewalk project. He is reviewing budget proposals for a general contractor for a staff egress door. A discussion was held regarding selling dedicated pavement bricks as a fundraiser to help pay for the sidewalk.

Friends report: The Friends sold over \$1200 in books last month. The proposals for the new A/V equipment are nearly completed and Kathryn will shared with the proposals with the Friends to request funding for the equipment.

Mayor and Council report: None.

Personnel report: Kathryn Ennist advised that she had made an offer to a candidate for the part-time graphics position. Miriam Bakal made a motion, seconded by Erica Fields, to go into closed session to discuss a personnel matter. The motion was unanimously approved. The meeting was closed at 6:11 and reopened at 6:13 pm.

Old Business: None.

New Business: A discussion was held regarding the Community Partnering and co-sponsorship policy. Kathryn Ennist advised she will work on guidelines for future partnerships and co-sponsorships. The Board discussed the need for the policy to include a script explicitly refuting any business endorsement by the library at such programs. The Board also discussed having presenters at the club sign an acknowledgement the policy and guidelines, that they are not endorsed by the library and agree not to hand out promotional material. Miriam Bakal stated she is starting a new policy committee to review this and other policy issues with the Library, comprised of Miriam Bakal, Erica Fields , and Robin Friedman.

Miriam Bakal made a motion, seconded by Robin Friedman, to adjourn the meeting at 6:44 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Erica Fields