

UPPER SADDLE RIVER LIBRARY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
June 17, 2026

	Present	Absent
Miriam Bakal	X	
Dennis DeBenedetto		X
Maria-Elena DeGregorio		X
Erica Fields		X
Robin Friedman	X	
Kathryn 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 6:02 p.m.

Pursuant to New Jersey P.L. 2025, c. 72, proper notice of this meeting has been provided by posting appropriate notice on the Library's website under the "Legal Notices and Public Announcements" section where the complete text of all legal notices required to be published by the Upper Saddle River Library can be obtained or viewed by the public at <https://uppersaddleriverlibrary.org/>. In addition, notice has been posted on the Library Bulletin Board; and notice was sent to the Borough of Upper Saddle River. The New Jersey Secretary of State has established a Legal Notice Hyperlink Page, <https://www.nj.gov/state/statewide-legal-notices-list.shtml>, allowing members of the public to find hyperlinks to the Official Internet Legal Notices Webpage of the Upper Saddle River Library.

Miriam Bakal took a roll call for attendance: Bakal- yes, DeBenedetto – no, DeGregorio- no, Fields – no, Friedman- yes, Quarto – yes, Parelhoff – yes.

Robin Friedman made a motion, seconded by Miriam Bakal to accept the minutes of the May 20, 2026 minutes. The motion was unanimously approved

Correspondence: None.

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

Robin Friedman presented the check and voucher register from May 21, 2026 through June 17, 2026. Robin Friedman made a motion, seconded by Miriam Bakal to accept the following resolution: Be it resolved that the attached schedule of revenues and expenses from May 21, 2026, through June 17, 2026 be approved. The motion was unanimously approved.

Director's report:

1. BCCLS Executive Board 5/21/26: There was one item of note from the meeting. Bayonne Public Library is formally petitioning to become a member of BCCLS. The board voted in favor and the petition will move to the June System Council meeting. Bayonne would be the 79th member of BCCLS if accepted at the June meeting.
2. 2025 Audit: Our auditors were at the Library on 6/3/26 to start their research for our 2025 audit. I will update the Board as the auditors complete their work on our audit for last year.
3. USR Woman's Club Donation: The Woman's Club of Upper Saddle River made a generous donation to the Library for children's programs. They appreciate being able to use our meeting spaces for their meetings and are proud to contribute towards our children's programming. We appreciate the Woman's Club thinking of the library and donating towards our programming.
4. Eagle Scout Thank You Note: Jonathan DeGregorio sent the Library a thank you note for providing support and the opportunity to complete his Eagle Scout project at the Library. Our first story is in the new Story Walk and we have already gotten positive feedback from patrons.
5. Summer Reading Kickoff 6/13/26: About 200 patrons of all ages stopped in at the Summer Reading Kickoff on Saturday. Participants were able to sign up for summer reading, play games, eat snacks, sing and dance along with our DJ, take a picture with our dinosaur, and more! We received many compliments from people about how great the party was.
6. Summer Reading Program: The 2026 Summer Reading Program: Unearth a Story has officially begun. Upper Saddle River Residents of all ages are welcome to sign up and read for the chance to win fun prizes. We also have a great lineup of tie-in programming in June and July. We hope to have even more participants than last year and are already off to a great start. A special thank you to the Friends of the Library for sponsoring the Summer Reading Kickoff Party and Program.
7. Vacation Notification: I will be on vacation from 7/12/26 through 7/16/26. I will have limited access to email.

Buildings & Grounds report: Work will continue on the Capital Plan and proposed projects.

Friends report: The Friends' June book sale went well with revenue well over \$1,000. They held their last meeting of their fiscal year on June 1, 2026 after which they held a luncheon for Friends and Library staff. The Friends next meeting will be in September at which time they will review their by-laws and possible contribution to renovation of the Library's Children's Solarium.

Mayor and Council report: Currently waiting on the Buildings & Grounds Committee to complete its work on the Capital Plan and other proposed projects.

Personnel report: The Personnel issue reported to the Board in May has come to a conclusion. A staff complaint was investigated by Kathryn Ennist and the Personnel Committee under the advice of legal counsel. The investigation has ended and appropriate actions were taken.

Old Business: None.

New Business:

- a. It was proposed that Kathryn Ennist be authorized to spend up to \$25,000 during the summer for capital improvements to the Children's and Adult Solariums. Miriam Bakal made a motion, seconded by Louisa Quarto to approve the proposed spending. The motion was unanimously approved.

Miriam Bakal made a motion, seconded by Kerri Parelhoff, to adjourn the meeting at 6:24 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathryn Ennist