



**MINUTES**  
**Berkeley Public Library - Board of Library Trustees Regular Meeting**  
**Wednesday, July 9, 2025**  
**6:30 PM**  
**West Branch - 1125 University Avenue, Berkeley CA 94702**

Board of Library Trustees:  
Beverly Greene, President      Shoshana O'Keefe  
Tanir Ami, Vice President      Amy Roth  
Priscilla Villanueva

**I. PRELIMINARY MATTERS**

A copy of the agenda packet can be found at <http://www.berkeleypubliclibrary.org/about/board-library-trustees>

- A. Call to order:** 6:30 PM
- Present: Trustee Ami, Greene, Roth and Villanueva
- Absent: Trustee O'Keefe
- Also Present: Tess Mayer, Director of Library Services; Henry Bankhead, Deputy Director; Aimee Reeder, Communications Manager; Dia Penning, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Manager; Jacqui Rodriguez, Administrative Secretary; Kasey Breien, Librarian, and Kelsey Ockert, Librarian.

**B. Ceremonial Matters:** None.

**C. Public Comments:** 0 speakers

**D. Comments from Library Unions:**

1. SEIU, LOCAL 1021 (Community Services and PTRLA Units) – 0 speakers
2. SEIU, LOCAL 1021 (Maintenance and Clerical Units) – 0 speakers
3. Public Employees Union, LOCAL 1 – 0 speakers

**E. Comments from Board of Library Trustees:**

1. Trustee Roth assumes that all know that Tess Mayer, the Director of Library Services, is meeting with the BOLT for the last time today. She recognizes the fabulous job she has done during her time here. She exclaims that Director Mayer came to a broken place and fixed it while doing a lot for BPL. She remarks that there were many unhappy people upon her arrival, and she managed to overcome that situation. She wishes Director Mayer stayed, but she only has affection and admiration for her and wishes her the best!
2. Trustee Ami echoes Trustee Roth's sentiments and adds that Tess will be very much missed. Trustee Ami exclaims that she has been incredibly impressed by Director Mayer's leadership and thanks her for her service.
3. Trustee Villanueva agrees with everything said and adds that Director Mayer has been very accepting and receptive to her different viewpoints. She is appreciative and will be greatly missed.
4. Trustee Greene agrees with the first, second, and third remarks made by the prior trustees and expresses gratitude for Tess's continued presence through the middle of August.

**II. PRESENTATION CALENDAR**

**A. PLA (Public Library Association) Digital Literacy Grant** – Kasey Breien, Librarian, and Kelsey Ockert, Librarian

**Action:** Received.

**III. CONSENT CALENDAR**

**Action:** M/S/C (Trustee Ami/ Trustee Roth) to adopt Resolution No. 25-029 to approve the consent calendar as presented.

**Vote:** Ayes: Trustee Ami, Greene, Roth and Villanueva. Noes: None. Abstentions: None. Absent: Trustee O'Keefe

**A. Approve Minutes of the June 4, 2025 Regular Meeting**

**From:** Tess Mayer, Director of Library Services

**Recommendation:** Adopt a resolution to approve the minutes of the June 4, 2025, Regular Meeting of the Board of Library Trustees.

**Contact:** Tess Mayer, Director of Library Services

**Action:** Adopted Resolution No. 25-030 to approve the minutes of June 4, 2025 as submitted.

**B. Bibliotheca, LLC Contract**

**From:** Alicia Abramson, Manager, Library Information Technology

**Recommendation:** Adopt a Resolution No.: 25-031

**Contact:** Alicia Abramson, Manager Library Information Technology

**Action:** Adopted Resolution No. 25-031.

**C. Purchase Authorization in Excess of Director of Library Services' Granted Authority**

**From:** Nneka Gallaread, Administrative and Fiscal Services Manager

**Recommendation:** Adopt Resolution No.: 25-032 authorizing the Director of Library Services to enter into fiscal year 2026 purchase agreements and approve payments to specified vendors for services encompassing utility, telephone and intranet/internet services, library materials, state taxes, professional services, and office supplies that may exceed the director's delegated spending authority of \$50,000 for services and \$100,000 for goods, materials, and equipment.

**Contact:** Nneka Gallaread, Administrative and Fiscal Services Manager

**Action:** Adopted Resolution No. 25-032.

**ACTION CALENDAR**

**A. Appointment of Acting Director of Library Services**

**From:** Beverly Greene, President, Board of Library Trustees

**Recommendation:** Adopt Resolution No.: 25-033 appointing an Acting Director of Library Services and setting the salary for Acting Director of Library Services within the existing salary range for Director of Library Services.

**Contact:** Beverly Greene, President, Board of Library Trustees

**Action:** M/S/C (Trustee Villanueva/ Trustee Ami) to adopt Resolution No. 25-033 appointing Henry Bankhead as Acting Director of Library Services within the existing salary range for Director of Library Services.

**Vote:** Ayes: Trustee Ami, Greene, Roth and Villanueva. Noes: None. Abstentions: None. Absent: Trustee O'Keefe

**B. Appointment of an Ad Hoc Subcommittee to Coordinate the Recruitment of a New Director of Library Services**

**From:** Beverly Greene, President, Board of Library Trustees

**Recommendation:** The President of the Board of Library Trustees, Trustee Greene, will appoint an ad hoc subcommittee to coordinate the recruitment of a new Director of Library Services.

**Contact:** Beverly Greene, President, Board of Library Trustees

**Action:** Trustee Greene and Trustee Ami will form the Ad Hoc Subcommittee to coordinate the recruitment of a new Director of Library Services.

**C. Patron Suspension Policy Update**

**From:** Tess Mayer, Director of Library Services

**Recommendation:** Adopt Resolution No.: 25-034 approving the revised Patron Suspension Policy.

**Contact:** Tess Mayer, Director of Library Services

**Action:** M/S/C (Trustee Ami/ Trustee Villanueva) to adopt Resolution No. 25-034.

**Vote:** Ayes: Trustee Ami, Greene, Roth and Villanueva. Noes: None. Abstentions: None. Absent: Trustee O'Keefe

**IV. INFORMATION REPORTS**

**A. Review Rules for Nominations for the Selection of Board President and Vice-President -**

Tess Mayer, Director of Library Services

**Action:** Received.

**B. Monthly Library Director's Report –** Tess Mayer, Director of Library Services

**Action:** Received.

**V. AGENDA BUILDING**

The next regular meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 3, 2025, at 6:30 PM. Future meeting topics identified include President and Vice President Nomination.

**VI. ADJOURNMENT**

**Action:** M/S/C (Trustee Villanueva/Trustee Roth) to adjourn the meeting.

**Vote:** Ayes: Trustee Ami, Greene, Roth and Villanueva. Noes: None. Abstentions: None. Absent: Trustee O'Keefe

Adjourned at 7:36PM.

This is to certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the regular meeting of Wednesday, July 9, 2025 as approved by the Board of Library Trustees.

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Tess Mayer, Director of Library Services, acting as secretary to BOLT

Attachments:

1. PLA Digital Literacy Grant PowerPoint