



**New Orleans Public Library**  
Regular Board Meeting  
New Orleans East Library Conference Room  
Tuesday, November 11, 2025  
4:30 p.m.

**MINUTES**

- I. **Call to Order**
- II. Board Vice-chair, Kathleen Coverick, called the November 11 regular board meeting to order at 4:37 p.m.
- III. **Roll Call — (4:37 p.m.)**  
Present: Kathleen Coverick, Alexis Parent-Ferrouillet, Joel Ross, Monique Robinson, Clarice Kirkland  
Absent: Dana Henry  
Staff Present: Emily Painton, Tammy Hanson, Michel Thompson, Jane LeGros, Shukrani Gray, Heather Riley, April Martin, Katy Hepner, Chris Tamyka Miles
- IV. **Action Item: Approval of Consent Agendas — (4:48 p.m.)**
  - A. Approve September 9, 2025 board meeting minutes
  - B. Approve November 4, 2025 Executive/Finance Committee Minutes
    1. Ms. Kirland made a motion to approve the consent agenda and Mr. Ross seconded. Motion carried unanimously.
- V. **Action Item: Motion to Approve 2026 Committee Officers**
  - A. A motion to approve the proposed slate of committee officers for the upcoming year was put forth by Ms. Robinson and seconded by Ms. Parent-Ferrouillet. Motion passed unanimously.
- VI. **Information Items (4:50 p.m.)**
  - A. Friends of NOPL Update
    1. Friends hosted a free screening of the documentary *The Librarians* on November 1<sup>st</sup>, which chronicled the banning of books across the U.S. and specifically, the case of Amanda Jones of Livingston Parish. Ms. Jones did a Q&A after the screening.

2. Friends received \$4k from the Jazz & Heritage Foundation and \$10k unrestricted funding from Rosa Mary
3. A kids-only book sale will be held on November 15<sup>th</sup> at the Lakeview Branch. A book sale will be held at Algiers Regional on December 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup>.
4. The recruitment for Crescent City Classic has begun and Ms. Cvitanovich is willing to discuss the event with any groups and clubs interested in participating.

#### B. Director's Update

1. The termite fumigation at the Latter branch is complete; however, remains closed due to a faulty boiler valve which prevents the building from heating properly.
2. We have begun the first round of interviews for the Facilities Administrator position. A second round is being planned.
3. The Main Library boiler/HVAC/elevator project is moving forward with boiler replacements completed. There is no official start date for the HVAC and elevator portion of the project. The CRC renovation continues to ensure that there are no water leakage. The system-wide roof & HVAC replacement project is slated to begin on December 1<sup>st</sup>.
4. One of our archivists, Brittany Silva has been awarded the Outstand Employee Award by the City.
5. The Carnegie Foundation is awarding \$10k for each Carnegie library across the country to celebrate the signing of the Declaration of Independence. We currently have three Carnegie libraries (if Main is also considered) and will use the \$30k award to update those facilities.
6. Ms. Painton attended the Neighborhood Engagement Awards Ceremony to accept an award on behalf of the library's long-standing partnership with that office.
7. Friends and Every Library did a survey to gauge the political candidates' stewardship towards the library. With this information, we can approach the electors to give them more accurate information about our funding and programs.
8. Ms. Painton asked for clarity from the CAO office, reminding him that we have our own healthy, fully funded budget. We are awaiting a response as to whether we can operate under our own bank account so that the library milage is kept separate from the general fund account. We recently discovered that the HR staff salaries that were previously consolidated with the City, are being allocated to our budget. These staff members are not under our supervision, so we have asked for more transparency in the future.

#### C. Financials Update

1. Total fund balance as of October 31<sup>st</sup> is \$37.3m budgeted and \$25m has been spent or allocated with 33% remaining. \$17.4m budgeted for

personnel costs; \$13m has been spent, leaving 25% remaining. \$19.9m has been budgeted for operating expenses. We have spent \$11.3m leaving \$8.6m or 43%. A total budget of \$37.3m, \$24m, has been spent or allocated, leaving \$12.9m or 35% for the remainder of the year. Any balances with remaining balances will be reviewed and used to cover overages elsewhere. The estimated total of the reserve fund balance is \$15m as of today's date. Ms. Thompson reminded the board that this balance will change with daily financial activity.

2. Ms. Thompson explained the breakdown of what dollars were spent on Strategic Planning initiatives. Ms. Painton added that the board will need to decide, specifically, what they would like to consider in these pillars, as the definitions are broad and subjective.

#### D. Q3 Performance

1. Digital circulation is up 15% due to our new virtual library card program. Other numbers are down due to several different factors.
2. Ms. Parent-Ferrouillet asked why program attendance has decreased. Ms. LeGros responded that the numbers aren't drastic, but a difference of one attendee per program. This could be due to closures as well.

### VII. **Attachments**

- A. Board Packet

### VIII. **Adjournment**

- A. The November 11, 2025, regular board meeting adjourned at 5:11 p.m.