



New Orleans Public Library
Board Meeting
Norman Mayer Conference Room
Tuesday, January 20, 2026
4:30 p.m.

MINUTES

I. **Call to Order** — 4:43 p.m.

II. **Roll Call** — 4:43 p.m.

Board Members Present: Katherine Coverick, Clarice Kirkland, Joel Ross, Monique Robinson, Alexis Parent-Ferrouillet

Absent: Dana Henry

Staff Present: Emily Painton, Tammy Hanson, Michel Thompson, Shukrani Gray, Heather Riley, April Martin, Katy Hepner, Tamyka Miles

III. **Action Item: Approval of Consent Agendas (4:44 p.m.)**

A. Approve November 11, 2025 board meeting minutes

1. Motion to approve consent agenda was made by and approved by. Motion passed unanimously.

IV. **Action Item: Approve Policy No. 100 – Cardholder Eligibility (4:46 p.m.)**

A. Motion to approve policy updates was made by Ms. Kirkland and seconded by Mr. Ross. Motion passed unanimously.

V. **Action Item: Approve Policy No. 151 – School Age Children and Young Adults (4: 47 p.m.)**

A. Motion to approve policy updates was made by Mr. Ross and Seconded by Ms. Parent-Ferrouillet. Motion passed unanimously.

VI. **Information Items (5:50 p.m.)**

A. Friends of NOPL

1. This item was tabled for the March board meeting

B. Director's Update

1. The Main HVAC project is moving forward with boiler replacement completed. A/C and Elevator projects are in the design phase.
2. The CRC is on schedule and expected to reopen this summer.

3. The system-wide roof and HVAC replacement is as follows. Keller is expected to reopen after Mardi Gras; ENO is scheduled to close on February 2nd and remain closed for two to three months.
 4. We have selected a Facilities Administrator and have submitted a hiring request to the Mayor's/CAO office.
 5. The soft launch of the holds locker at Robert E. Smith library occurred in December.
 6. The RENEW book launch is happening on January 31st from 2 to 4 p.m.
 7. We have begun accepting submissions for the Black History Month Art Contest. It is open to ages K-12.
 8. We still have three board vacancies. Current members are encouraged to submit names to the new administration.
- C. Financials Update
1. This item was tabled for the March board meeting.

VII. Discussion Items (5:15 p.m.)

- A. Early Literacy/Children's Resource Center – (Christine McCourtney, 10 minutes)
1. Ms. McCourtney explained the programming space that will encompass the remodeled Children's Resource Center
- B. 2025 Operational Plan Review – (Heather Riley, 10 minutes)
1. Ms. Riley discussed the goals and achievements that were accomplished in 2025 as part of our strategic plan.

VIII. Adjournment

- A. A motion for the January 20, 2026 Board Meeting to adjourn was made by Ms. Parent-Ferrouillet and seconded by Ms. Kirkland. Board adjourned at 5:27 p.m. by unanimous vote.

SIGNED: Clarice Kirkland DATE: May 12, 2026
Clarice Kirkland, Secretary