



New Orleans Public Library
Board Meeting
Algiers Regional Conference Room
Tuesday, July 14, 2026
4:30 p.m.

MINUTES

I. Call to Order

A. Board Treasurer, Joel Ross called the July 14, 2026 board meeting to order at 4:40 p.m. and read the rules on public comment.

II. Roll Call – 4:43 p.m.

Members Present: Joes Ross, Monique Robinson, Austin Lavin, DJ Johnson, Alexis Parent-Ferrouillet (late)

Members Absent: Kathleen Coverick, Clarice Kirkland

Staff Present: Emily Painton, Tammy Hanson, Heather Riley, Michel Thompson, Jnne LeGros, April Martin, Laura Bevins

Partners: Shannan Cvitanovic

III. Action Item: Approval of Consent Agendas – 4:43 p.m.

A. Approve March 10, 2026 board meeting minutes

B. April 8, 2026, Executive/Finance Committee Meeting minutes

1. Public comment was made regarding the name of the Children's Recourse Center

2. Ms. Hanson called Point of Order to clarify that comments be limited to correction of the minutes being voted upon.

3. Mr. Ross made a motion to approve the consent agenda and Ms. Parent-Ferrouillet seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

IV. Action Item: 2027 Budget Approval – 4:47 p.m.

A. Ms. Thompson read the proposed 2027 budget allocations which remain similar to the 2026 numbers. The amount we are taking from the fund reserves in 2027 is \$2m less than the current budget due to no longer having expenses relating to major building projects.

B. A comment was made from the floor about having seed libraries at all locations. Ms. Painton responded that every region has a seed library and there are no plans to expand it.

C. Motion to approve the 2027 budget was made by Joel Ross and seconded by Alexis Parent-Ferrouillet. Motion passed unanimously.

V. **Action Item: Approve Policy No. 140(r) – Electronic Resources Access Policy - 4:56 p.m.**

- A. Ms. Painton noted the edits in the current policy have been changed to coincide with other current library policies and procedures and with the recommendation of the Inspector General.
- B. Mr. Ross made a motion to approve the updated policy and Ms. Parent-Ferrouillet seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

VI. **Information Items – 5:00 p.m.**

A. The Library Foundation of New Orleans

- 1. The LFNO book manager is now full time. Ms. Sevi Calliet an AmeriCorps Vista intern that is working with LFNO through a partnership with Tulane Center for Public Service.
- 2. LFNO received a \$25k grant from the Urban Libraries Council for the Teen Civic Makers Lab. This project aims to get 15 to 18 year olds involved in civic engagement.
- 3. The East New Orleans book sale was held this past weekend. The next Big Book Sale will be held at Norman Mayer on August 29. It is kids only.

B. Director's Update

- 1. Ms. Painton called attention to the misleading Instagram account that is impersonating the library and spreading misinformation.
- 2. The CRC remodel is complete and we are waiting for furnishings, book orders, and supplies to reopen in September.
- 3. The HVAC system failed at Keller and Nora Navra. A change in vendors has created a short delay.
- 4. The elevator/HVAC project for the Main library went out to bid and is slated to start in 2027.
- 5. The roof at Keller has been replaced on a portion of the building. The roof and HVAC have been replaced at ENO and Norman Mayer. Smith is currently closed for the roof/HVAC replacement. Algiers is the next location to receive updates.
- 6. The New Orleans African Museum has joined the Culture Pass program.
- 7. Archivists Christina Bryant and Brittany Silva will be presenting at the National Association of Government Archives and Records Administrators annual conference on July 22. This was funded through a grant from Community Webs.

C. Financials Update

- 1. With six months remaining, of the \$34.7m total budget \$12.8m has been expended, encumbered or committed. \$7.2m of personnel budget of \$17m has been expended and \$4.3m of other operating budget of \$17.6m has been expended. \$191k has been invested in Strategic Planning initiatives.

VII. **Attachments**
A. Board Packet

VIII. **Adjournment**
A. Board Treasurer, Joel Ross, adjourned the July 14, 2026 board meeting at 5:33 p.m.