

Meeting minutes of the Board of Trustees of the University City Public Library for
May 14, 2025

Members present: Cindy Zirwes, Jerrold Lander, Kim Deitzler, Mark Barnes, Joan Greco-Cohen, Dennis Hoppe, Helen Nelling, Trish Winchell.

Members absent: Aren Ginsberg

City Council Liaison: Stacy Clay

Library staff: Patrick Wall—Director, Kerry Bruce, Cindy Deichmann

The meeting was held in hybrid format. Some board members and staff participated via Zoom, and the meeting was recorded; it is available for viewing on the Library's Facebook page and YouTube channel.

The meeting was called to order at 5:15 pm by Cindy Zirwes, President, followed by roll call.

Minutes – Jerrold Lander made a motion that the minutes from the meeting on April 9, 2025, be approved, seconded by Trish Winchell. Motion passed unanimously by roll call vote at 5:30 pm.

Correspondence – The adult education and literacy group that meets here gave library staff cards of appreciation for National Librarian Day on April 16.

Council Liaison Report – Dierbergs groundbreaking at Markets at Olive will be on May 30. The CALOP Commission still has \$150,000 in accounts; a study session discussed dissolving the Commission and moving funds elsewhere. Mr. Clay will ask about the timeline for the TruHotel construction.

President's Report – ALA is offering a free Zoom class on June 9 about stress reduction and well-being for library employees. Thanks to Joan Greco-Cohen for her years of service; she has used up her eligibility for serving on the Library Board. This is Cindy's last meeting as President; she thanked the other board members for making it easy.

Committee Reports

Budget & Finance – The committee recommends a 2.5% COLA increase in July and a 5% step increase in January 2026—this will be on the June meeting's agenda. Discussed state funding and donation of \$31,000 from the Friends group. Will possibly add another T-bill.

Building & Grounds – Bond Architects recommends painting the front step yellow and removing parking bumpers to cut down on injuries in the parking lot. RG Ross came to address window leaks. Elevator is being re-inspected on May 19, due to water in the shaft. The Library is hiring a cleaning company.

Long-Range Planning – Discussed options for creating a patron survey (external companies are too expensive). Next step is reviewing questions. Time frame is July through November. Possibly could be a practicum project for a student.

Personnel & Policy – Helen Nelling will be at the All-Staff meeting on May 20 to review results of the staff survey. The committee recommends a 2.5% COLA increase in July and a 5% step increase in January 2026—this will be on the June meeting's agenda.

Librarian's Report – Helen Nelling made a motion to approve the consent agenda, seconded by Jerrold Lander. Motion passed unanimously by roll call vote at 6:20 pm.

Next meeting will be on June 18 rather than June 11. The seed library is now available. The Library has received a donation of a telescope, and is working out how to offer a Library of Things to patrons.

Discussion Items –

Action Items.

Election of officers. The following slate of officers was put forward: Mark Barnes as President, Cindy Zirwes as Vice President, Dennis Hoppe as Secretary, and Helen Nelling as Treasurer. Trish Winchell made a motion to vote for approval of this slate, seconded by Joan Greco-Cohen. Motion passed by roll call vote at 6:26 pm. Aye votes: Mark Barnes, Kim Deitzler, Joan Greco-Cohen, Dennis Hoppe, Jerrold Lander, Helen Nelling, Trish Winchell, Cindy Zirwes. Nay votes: none.

Closed session. Mark Barnes called for a closed session under 610.021(3) RSMo, seconded by Joan Greco-Cohen. Motion passed by roll call vote at 6:27 pm. Aye votes: Mark Barnes, Kim Deitzler, Joan Greco-Cohen, Dennis Hoppe, Jerrold Lander, Helen Nelling, Trish Winchell, Cindy Zirwes. Nay votes: none.

Session re-opened at 6:40 pm.

The next regularly scheduled Board meeting will be Wednesday, June 18, 2025, at 5:15 pm.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:41 pm.