

Meeting minutes of the Board of Trustees of the University City Public Library for

June 10, 2026

Members present: Mark Barnes (via zoom), Aren Ginsberg, Dennis Hoppe, Jerrold Lander, Helen Nelling, Barbara Santoro, Cindy Zirwes, and Trish Winchell

Members absent: Kim Deitzler

City Council Liaison: None

Library Staff: Patrick Wall - Director, Kerry Bruce, Tracey Howe-Koch

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 Mark Barnes, President, followed by roll call.

Minutes – There were two corrections to the minutes regarding attendance and spelling. With the corrections, Aren Ginsberg motioned to approve the minutes from the May 13, 2026 Board of Trustees meeting. It was seconded by Cindy Zirwes. Motion passed unanimously by roll call vote at 5:18pm.

Correspondence – Lashly & Baer returned an amended version of the contract to loan items to the Wadsworth Atheneum Museum. The amendments are in the Library's favor. The Library received two thank you cards in regards to helpful staff and the use of a meeting room. The University City Historical Society sent in a donation for \$2,000 towards general funds.

Council Liaison – A new City Council Liaison has not been appointed and approved yet. Patrick Wall will reach out to City Hall to check on the progress for filling the vacancy.

President Report – Mark Barnes reviewed the Board of Trustees list appointments. Cindy Zirwes and Dennis Hoppe's terms will be renewed. Cindy Zirwes for her third term and Dennis Hoppe for his second term. Patrick Wall will speak with the City Council Liaison to have their terms renewed by City Council.

Committee Reports

Long Range Planning – They did not meet.

Personnel and Policy – The Personnel and Policy, acting in their capacity as the Search Committee, met with Organizational Architects (OA) to finalize the new Director search process. They will soft launch the search on June, 12, 2026. OA will set up a time in late June/early July to meet in person with the Search Committee, Board, and key library staff before they officially

launch the search. The Committee recommends supporting the Domestic Partner Benefit Policy and the Fiscal Year 2027 Library Budget.

Building and Grounds – Bond Architects noted that seven contractors are interested in bidding on the bathroom doors. The bid opening will be at the Library on July 1, 2026.

Budget and Finance – The Library still does not have access to New World and must go to City Hall for all payroll and payment processing. The Committee recommends approval of the Fiscal Year 2027 Library Budget. The budget is slightly higher than FY 2026 and with building projects being funded through reserves. An additional \$16,000 will be added to the budget to cover professional expenses related to the Director search.

Librarian's Report – There were two instances of patrons calling the police to the Library. One was in regards to a possible stalking incident and one was a miscommunication. There was a complaint about a Library policy and how it was handled by a staff member. Patrick Wall will review the situation with the staff member to make sure it was handled as well as possible.

Helen Nelling motioned to accept the Consent Agenda. It was seconded by Trish Winchell. Motion passed unanimously by roll call vote at 5:37pm.

Action Items

Domestic Partner Benefit Policy – Helen Nelling motioned to approve the Domestic Partner Benefit Policy as recommended by the Personnel & Policy Committee. Aren Ginsberg seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously by roll call vote at 5:38pm.

Fiscal Year 2027 Library Budget – Jerrold Lander motioned to approve the Fiscal Year 2027 Library Budget, with the inclusion of \$16,000 for professional services. It was seconded by Aren Ginsberg. Motion passed unanimously by roll call vote at 5:40pm.

Old Business – There was no old business.

New Business – The Committee went into Executive Session from 5:40-5:44pm to discuss the FY27 Director salary.

Public Comments – The Memorial Day Run went very well and will likely result in 25% more in raised funds than last year. It was also recommended to have MO American Water join us again as it enabled much better water distribution to the runners.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:50pm.

The next regularly scheduled Board Meeting will be Wednesday, September 23, 2026 at 5:15pm.