Approved

CARNEGIE LIBRARY OF PITTSBURGH
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES
Monday, July 13, 2026 - 4 p.m.
Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh (CLP)
CLP-Main/Zoom

Present:
Carolyn Hess Abraham
Molly Brean (remote)
Marc Brown
Nickolas Certo
Anne Chen
John Dolan (remote)
Trisha Gadson
James Hill
Eliezer Kanal (remote)
Wayne Kelly
Sue Kirsch
Frank Lucchino
Lafe Metz (remote)
Laura Miller
Alice Mitinger
Deborah Moss
John Rhoades
Carol Robinson
Cary Reed (remote)
Pat Siger
Jonathan Smith
Erika Strassburger
Lou Testoni
LaShawnda Thomas (remote)
Barbara Warwick
Betsy Watkins
Allegra Wiles
Greg Zovko

Absent:
Elizabeth Baran
Jay Costa
Patrick Dowd
Deb Gross
Bethany Hallam
Daniel Lavelle
Paul Klein
Andrew McEvoy
Alex Rose
Damon Young
Emma Yourd

Present by Invitation:
Linda Barsevich
Sarah Beasley
Molly Bennett
Hannah Brizzi
Anita Greene-Jones
Marta Honores
Maggie Iddings
Anne Lee
Andrew Medlar
Mary Monaghan
Caitie Morphew
Lauren O'Keeffe
Deborah Rogers
Lindsay Smart
Paul Vanderwiel
Karlyn Voss
Lindsey White

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I. Call to Order and Welcome

Mr. Brown welcomed the Board of Trustees and called the meeting to order. The Board welcomed Lindsey White, the new Director, Finance & Administration.

II. Approval of the May 18, 2026, Board Meeting Minutes

On a motion duly made and seconded, the minutes from the May 18, 2026, meeting were unanimously approved.

III. Chair Update and Discussion

The Board received the consent agenda materials for the President & Director's updates, External Relations Committee, and Committee on Trusteeship in the meeting book prior to the meeting. On a motion duly made and seconded, the Board approved the consent agenda items. On a motion duly made and seconded, the Board approved the Execution of Instruments, updated to include Lindsey White.

IV. Finance Committee

Ms. Kirsch gave an update on the Finance Committee. The Board reviewed the latest five-year projections. Looking forward to 2027, CLP is projecting an operating deficit that is projected to escalate over time, in large part due to salary and benefits. CLP has submitted a request to RAD for a 10% increase and an additional $1M for debt service on new bonds. The Board reviewed the 2027 RAD budget request, which also includes the eiNetwork 2027 request. The Board reviewed the Bond Issue resolution. The resolution authorizes bond financing up to $15M to fund critical facilities upgrades, with special urgency at CLP-Homewood. The Allegheny County Industrial Development Agency (ACIDA) will be the issuer, and CLP will be the borrower. The resolution made clear that the bond issue will not move forward without full funding form RAD. CLP has met with RAD staff to discuss the 2027 RAD budget request, and plans to meet with the RAD Library Committee next week. The Board discussed options if CLP does not receive the requested amount from RAD and noted the importance of having communication plans in place. It was noted that building repairs, salary/benefits, and services would be impacted. The RAD Board meets to approve the preliminary budget on September 29th. On a motion duly made and seconded, the Bond Issue resolution, contingent on RAD funding the service, was approved, with one member abstaining. The Board discussed the Capital Project Approval and Funding Verification Policy. The purpose of this policy is to prevent the organization from incurring substantial financial risk by initiating, designing, or constructing facilities without proper approval and secured sources of funding. The new policy follows existing CLP current procedures. On a motion duly made and seconded, the Capital Project Approval and Funding Verification Policy was approved. Lindsay Smart, Controller, shared a presentation on CLP's net assets, clarifying what CLP truly has on hand for budget emergencies. The Board reviewed CLP's balance sheet and a breakdown of Library net assets. The Board reviewed restricted and unrestricted assets. Illiquid assets include land, buildings and equipment, and Buncher Company Stock. The primary asset that would serve CLP in a time of emergency is the operating reserve. CLP is currently utilizing the operating reserve funds to help supplement the budget. Mr. Medlar updated the Board on the Allegheny County Law Library (ACLL). The management agreement ends on December 31, 2026. The ACLL is not part of the operating budget nor the five-year projections. The

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county currently fully funds the ACLL. County funding is uncertain for the future, and CLP is exploring options. It is a state mandate for counties in PA to provide a law library. Ms. Kirsch gave operating results as of May 31, 2026. The current operating surplus is due to timing and early receipt of revenues (Library Tax and State Aid). CLP does not anticipate any changes in the budget forecast for the year. Long-term investments have seen a market gain of 6.6%

V. Development Committee

Ms. Siger provided updates from the Development Committee. CLP is currently 50% to goal for this year. The Board noted the large amount of fundraising needed for the capital project at CLP-Homewood. Development is currently prepping for upcoming fundraising campaigns with September's Love Your Library, EITC appeals, end-of-year appeals, and preparation for the 2027 Novel Evening and PGH Book Fest. Board members are encouraged to be active fundraising participants.

VI. IDEA Committee

Dr. Gadson provided an update on the IDEA Committee. Committee chairs have discussed needing a clearer understanding of their actions for IDEA. A subcommittee of the IDEA Committee created a visual equity tool to assist chairs with their efforts. The Board reviewed the document, which reviews governing principles for the Board and how the practice of IDEA is formalized differently based upon the committee's function. The document provides questions that chairs can respond to that will help guide their committee work. These questions will also help ensure accountability to each committee on their IDEA goals. The visual includes definitions of IDEA for Library governance, roles of Trustees, and all the committees and how they operationalize IDEA.

VII. Facilities Committee

Ms. Chen gave an update on the Facilities Committee. The Board discussed the CLP-Squirrel Hill HVAC/Roof Replacement project. The design documents have been completed and has an estimated total cost of $1.747M. CLP received approval for the Keystone Grant in April, for the fully requested amount of $400K**,** and the rest of the project is covered by available capital cash on hand. The project is in compliance with the Capital Project Approval and Funding Verification Policy. The Board discussed ownership of the Squirrel Hill Library building and who should be responsible for maintenance. CLP does not own the building and does not have a lease due to multiple tenants. The roof and HVAC system impact CLP services and materials, and the Keystone Grant is contingent on CLP spending it by the end of September. It was later noted that the Keystone Grant must be spent by September 2027. Board members expressed concerns over the current conditions of the entire building (the parking garage in particular). Board members encouraged meeting and engaging with the owners and documenting the agreement. On a motion duly made and seconded, the Board approved the capital budget request for the Squirrel Hill roof and HVAC project. CLP will gather further information on the arrangement. Five members abstained. The Board discussed CLP-Homewood. CLP is moving forward with architectural design and drawings. The

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capital budget for CLP-Homewood is anticipated in late 2026 or early 2027. CLP must have bond proceeds to move forward with formal bidding and construction. Mr. Medlar updated the Board on the church fire, next to CLP- Mt. Washington. The Library is temporarily closed, pending the demolition of the church. The Library sustained no damage.

VIII. Executive Session

An Executive Session was held at 5:35 pm.

IX. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:00 pm.