

TOMPKINS COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY
DRAFT MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
SEPTEMBER 23, 2025

TCPL Board Members Present: Kathy Weinberg, President; Lis Chabot, Laura Krauss, Carrie Bauer, Nina Scholtz, Christina Brewington, Emily Hopkins, Sarah Clausen, Darrell Long, Shelley Wong

Trustees Excused: Reyna Florentino-Gambrell, Beth Osborne, Jason Lovari

Also Present: Susan Currie, Interim Director; Kerry Barnes, TCPL Foundation Executive Director; Mary McKeon, Administrative Manager; Judd Karlman, AS Dept. Head; Brian Sasser, Communications Manager

With a quorum, the meeting is convened at 4:02 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

APPROVAL OF AGENDA DOC 25-68

A **MOTION** was made by L. Krauss and seconded by C. Brewington. to approve the agenda as amended. Approved unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

The following attended the meeting and addressed the board:
Shelby Buche

APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER 23, 2025 MINUTES DOC 25-69

A **MOTION** was made by E. Hopkins and seconded by K. Weinberg. Two abstentions.
Approved.

APPROVAL OF SYNERGY WORKSTATION REPLACEMENT PROPOSAL

Darrell Long, Vice President of the board gave an in-depth

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

E. Hopkins welcomed our newest trustee, Linda Bartnik. E. Hopkins invited trustees interested in a position as officers to email Emily. The nominating committee will bring forth the slate of officers at the next meeting.

APPROVAL OF THE BILLS

I, Treasurer, Lisabeth Chabot, in keeping with New York State Education Law, certify that I have reviewed all vouchers presented for payment, and that all disbursements are within the approved operating budget of the library and therefore recommend that the Board of Trustees approve for

payment September 2025 bills in the amount of \$185,418.85 as listed in Abstracts #26, # 27, and #28.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

S. Currie welcomed Linda Bartnik, our newest trustee who was approved at last week's Government Operations Meeting. We will schedule an orientation, although she is very familiar with the library as a long-time volunteer, caring for the gardens around the building. And she was a public supporter in 2017 when S. Currie presented the library budget to the county.

Finger Lakes Library System's Annual Meeting: a meeting of the board reps from the 33 libraries of the system. We are required to have at least one member as there are items to be voted upon at the meeting. L. Chabot and C. Brewington will be attending the meeting.

Currie gave an update on the Business Manager Search, the search committee consists of Department Heads, Administrative Manager, Communications Manager and Laura Krauss from the board. The committee interviewed the top two candidates included time with Principal Account Clerk and the Foundation Director, In process of checking references.

S. Currie thanked our Principal Account Clerk, Connie Clark, for her hard work while we are without a Business Manager. She is working hard and keeping everything running smoothly.

S. Currie's presentation to the County is scheduled for Thursday, September 25 at 6:30 pm in legislative chambers. You can watch it via the legislative Youtube channel. Currie is pleased that Board Treasurer, Lis Chabot will accompany Currie. The budget proposed for TCPL is \$4,032,448 for 2026. She will be asking for one over target request for one Clerk and one Sr. Clerk for materials processing. The amount is \$96,570.00. Currie also sent requests to the Town and City of Ithaca, asking for \$15,00 from each as was granted last year. The funds would be used to support programming.

SEARCH COMMITTEE UPDATE

S. Clausen reported on behalf of the Director Search Committee, one of our candidates declined. The Committee worked through various options and are arranging to meet with Tompkins County Human Resources and the County Attorney.

LIAISON REPORTS

Foundation – The Foundation's end of year marathon has begun with a book launch of Lamar Herrin's Pure Products on October 4th with proceeds going to the Library through the Foundation, October 11th is our Readathon, and on October 31, we will be presenting TCPL After Dark: Beyond the Margins.

This event is a costume-optional, literary-themed party, with all proceeds benefitting Tompkins County Public Library, on Friday, October 31st, from 7 to 9 PM, in the library. There will be drinks from South Hill Cider, desserts from Kiely's Cooking, a costume contest, literary activities and games, a silent auction, and music courtesy of DJ 781.66 and DJ Book Drop.

Friends – N. Scholtz announced the fall booksale starts October 11th and the friends are very busy getting ready. Library days are coming up. Donations are being accepted starting November 15th.

A **MOTION** to adjourn the meeting by L. Chabot and seconded by N. Scholtz at 4:45 p.m. Carried unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A **MOTION** was made by L. Chabot and seconded by K. Weinberg to move into Executive Session at 4:46pm. Approved unanimously.

No votes took place.

A **MOTION** was made by C. Brewington and seconded by N. Scholtz was made to come out of Executive Session at 5:45pm. Approved unanimously.

A **MOTION** was made by D. Long to adjourn the meeting and seconded by K. Weinberg at 5:46pm. Approved unanimously.

Minutes by Mary McKeon
Administrative Manager

Endorsed by
Secretary