

WEST HARTFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD MINUTES
Monday, October 28, 2024, 6:30 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Vice -Chair EJ Greenspan called the Library Board to order at 6:33 p.m. Present were Board members Kim Cohen, Eileen Daly, and Natalia Menjivar, Library Director Laura Imscher, and Heidi Reagan, recorder, and invited guests, Kari Karp and Abigail Simard. Chair, Gail Crockett was absent.

2. APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA (Items 2a, 2b. and 2c)

- a. Approval of the Minutes of the September 23, 2024, Meeting.
- b. Library Administrative reports.
- c. Budget Report.

MOTION: On a motion made by Kim Cohen and seconded by Natalia Menjivar, the Board unanimously approved the Consent Agenda.

3. CHAIR’S REPORT – none

4. STAFF SPOTLIGHT: Teen Department

- a. Kari Karp and Abigail Simard presented some of the projects and programs the Teen Department is currently working on

5. BUSINESS ITEMS

- a. 2024 – 2025 Holiday Schedule – Laura Imscher
 - i. Laura asked the committee to reconsider the time the Library will close on December 24 to 2pm.

MOTION: On a motion made by EJ Greenspan and seconded by Natalia Menjivar, the Board unanimously approved to close the Noah Webster and Faxon Libraries at 2pm on December 24 and to not open the Bishops Corner Library that day at all (since they normally don’t open until 1pm on Tuesdays).

- b. Sunday Schedule for 2025 – Laura Imscher
 - i. Laura presented the dates for ten Sundays for the Library to be open in early 2025.

MOTION: On a motion made by Eileen Daly and seconded by Natalia Menjivar, the Board unanimously approved the Sunday schedule as presented.

- c. Library Board Meeting Schedule for 2025

MOTION: On a motion made by Kim Cohen and seconded by Natalia Menjivar, the Board unanimously approved the Library Board meeting schedule as presented.

- d. Cancelling the Library Board’s December 23, 2024 meeting

MOTION: On a motion made by Natalia Menjivar and seconded by Eileen Daly, the Board unanimously approved to cancel the December 23, 2024 Library Board meeting.

6. Director's Report – Laura Irmscher

- a. West Hartford Reads!, featuring Jacqueline Woodson, was a huge success with 276 people, many of them children, in attendance.
- b. Babies Love Books is a new program launched at Faxon in September, with nine families representing countries from all over the world attending.
- c. The new Community Center and Library project is still in the early stages, but progress is being made and the architects are responsive to the Library's needs.
- d. Spooktober featuring our new intern, Mr. Bones, has kept everyone busy with programs, crafts, a special Storytime at Bishops, and a movie screening of The Shining.
- e. Last week's Staff Day included a presentation by Melissa Henowitz, our HR rep, a department spotlight on Programs and Publicity, the launching of our new staff intranet, and training opportunities on our new Language Translator.
- f. We've had a lot of Outreach Events this past month as part of our Strategic Plan to meet the community outside the Library.

7. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: The Library Board Meeting was unanimously adjourned at 7:05 p.m. The next scheduled Board Meeting is November 18, 2024.

Respectfully submitted,

Kim Cohen
Board Secretary
West Hartford Library Board