

**TENAFLY PUBLIC LIBRARY
MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING
January 12, 2026**

The Board of Trustees of the Tenaflly Public Library met on January 12, 2026 at 7:00 p.m. at the library for its regular Board meeting.

Board Members Present: President Martin Gilbert, Vice President Kathleen Cook, Secretary/Treasurer Soon Juhng, David DiGregorio (Zoom) Julie Lev, Yelena Meytes (Zoom), Nicole Motz and Elizabeth Warms (Zoom).

Staff Present: Library Director Julie Marallo and Administrative Assistant Ann Marie Connolly.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. Julie Marallo reported that notices of the meeting had been posted and sent to the media.

2026 Board Reorganization

Oath of Office – Julie Lev

Julie Lev took the Oath of Office as a reinstated member of the Library Board.

Oath of Office – Yelena Meytes

Yelena Meytes took the Oath of Office as a reinstated member of the Library Board.

Oath of Office – Nicole Motz

Nicole Motz took the Oath of Office as a reinstated member of the Library Board.

2026 Election of Board Officers.

The following were nominated:

President – Martin Gilbert. Moved by: Nicole Motz. Seconded by: Kathleen Cook. Elected Unanimously.

Vice President – Kathleen Cook. Moved by: Nicole Motz. Seconded by: Elizabeth Warms. Elected Unanimously.

Secretary/Treasurer – Soon Juhng Moved by: Nicole Motz. Seconded by: Martin Gilbert. Elected Unanimously.

Minutes

Board members approved the Minutes of the regular Board meeting of December 8, 2025. Moved by: Elizabeth Warms. Seconded by: Kathleen Cook. Unanimously approved.

Board members approved the Minutes of the Executive Board meeting of December 8, 2025. Moved by: Kathleen Cook. Seconded by: Nicole Motz. Unanimously approved.

Treasurer's Report

Martin Gilbert reviewed with the Board the Library's Financial Statements of December 2025. He noted that he had examined and approved of the statements and reported that they were current and accurate. A motion was made to approve the financial reports. Moved by: Nicole Motz. Seconded by: Julie Lev. Unanimously approved.

Library Funds Budget - 2026

The Board discussed the 2026 Library Fund Budget presented by Library Director, Julie Marallo. After discussion the Board approved the budget as presented. Moved by: Elizabeth Warms. Seconded by: Nicole Motz. Unanimously approved.

BCCLS 2026 Certification of Agreement

The Board discussed and agreed that the Tenafly Public Library was in compliance with the rules and regulations of the Bergen County Cooperative System. Elizabeth Warms moved to certify the Agreement and Soon Juhng seconded the motion. Unanimously approved. Board President Martin Gilbert and Library Director Julie Marallo will sign the BCCLS Certification of Agreement.

Correspondence

None.

President's Report

Martin Gilbert discussed how current events are impacting New Jersey libraries.

Old Business

None

New Business

None

Report from the Mayor's Alternate

Mayor Zinna informed Nicole Motz that discussions are starting again about developing a new community center which might include the library.

The Borough Council has formed a committee to work with an engineering firm that will help determine the possible locations, the structure itself, and the total costs involved.

Report from the Superintendent's Alternate

David DeGregorio informed Board members of the status of the renovation plans for the High School and the Middle School

Citizen's Portion of the Meeting

None

Any Other Business

None

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:02 p.m. to go into Closed Session. Moved by: Soon Juhng. Seconded by: Kathleen Cook. Unanimously accepted.

The Board returned from Closed Session at 8:11 p.m.

The following Resolution was approved by the Board of Trustees:

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED THAT: The Board of Trustees of the Free Public Library of the Borough of Tenafly in the County of Bergen, State of New Jersey approves of establishing a new position entitled “Information Technology and World Languages Librarian” with a starting salary of \$80,000.

Moved by: Martin Gilbert

Seconded by: Soon Juhng

Voting as follows:

Kathleen Cook - Aye

Julie Lev - Aye

David DiGregorio - Aye

Yelena Meytes - Aye

Martin Gilbert - Aye

Nicole Motz – (Abstained)

Soon Juhng - Aye

Elizabeth Warms - Aye

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:17 p.m. Moved by: Martin Gilbert. Seconded by Julie Lev. Unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Soon Juhng
Secretary/Treasurer

The next regular meeting of the Library Board of Trustees will be on Monday, February 9, 2026 at 7:00 p.m.

Approved: February 9, 2026