

**Port Chester- Rye Brook Library
Board of Trustees Meeting
July 28, 2026**

The regular meeting of the Port Chester-Rye Brook Library Board of Trustees was held on Tuesday, July 28, 2026. The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m.

Roll call: Jackie Christal, Richard Falanka, Barbara Goodstein, Laura Horgan, Mark Kamensky, Dineen Ladore, Yang Lie, Ellen Mutino, Veronica O'Connor, Lisa Simon, Lauren Watt, Paul Zaccagnino, Tee Cotter, Mayra Fortes

Excused: Carin Zakes Green

Ex-Officio: Mayor Jason Klein and Mayor Luis Marino.

There was a motion to accept the minutes of June 23, 2026 meeting with the following edit: under the Nominating Committee report, last sentence, correct spelling of Falan to Falanka. Motion made by Barbara Goodstein and was seconded by Mark Kamensky; all aye, motion carries.

President's Report: President O'Connor thanked Director Cotter and the entire staff for the wonderful Summer Reading Kick-off event and lining up wonderful programs for the duration of summer.

- Attended the Korean Lantern making event
- Thank you to staff for their board reports
- Met with the new Trustees for their orientation
- August 12th is the Time Capsule event
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Treasurer's Report was given by Lisa Simon. The operating Budget was emailed to all Board members. Not much to report on as it is the first month of the new fiscal year, but there is a new format for the spreadsheet. Thank you to Mayra and Yang for their work on this. Also emailed to all board members were the May and June check lists and Financial Position spreadsheet.

The Finance committee chair gave an update on the Library accounts.

Library Director, Ms. Cotter, emailed her report to all board members.

- Summer Programming highlights so far, Open House on 6/29 was well attended with many fun activities, Grab-and Go Crafts, Frogs, Bugs and Animals, Music with Kurt Gallagher, Stuffed Animal Reading Buddy, and Lantern Craft to name a few.
- Upcoming events were described in flyers provided to all Board members.
- Received donations to support the library programs from various businesses and organizations in the villages.
- Updated the E-Newsletter with Mayra and Steve Martinez and analyzed our social media accounts.
- With Mayra Fortes submitted survey to Village of Port Chester's updating of their Comprehensive Plan.
- Attended several meetings in June and July; PLDA, met with Barbara Baker regarding future programming for the Spanish-English Conversational Exchange. Also met with President O'Connor and new Trustees for their orientation.
- Met with Mayra to go over the 2026-2027 budget and met with Izzy Pilaes to go over various aspects of the Children's Room operations

The Personnel chair reported that the manual is undergoing review by an attorney.

The Building, Grounds, and Security Committee chairperson reported he had been in touch with Edgewood Contractors regarding the wall in the Davidson Room.

The Planning and Development Committee chair reported that a template of sub-committees was shared with Director Cotter.

New Business discussed was the Westchester Library Systems Free Direct Access Plan update for 2027-2031 which all board members were sent via email to review. A motion was made that the Port Chester-Rye Brook Library Board of Trustees reviewed, acknowledged, and do accept the Westchester Library System Free Direct Access Plan as presented. Motion made by Richard Falanka, seconded by Paul Zaccagnino. All aye, motion carries.

New board members and current board members joined and/or changed committee assignments.

Discussion on the Library Gala event scheduled for November 14th at the Harrison Meadows covering various aspects for consideration was had.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Laura-Michelle Horgan and was seconded by Barbara Goodstein. All aye, motion carries. Meeting adjourned at 8:27 p.m.

Submitted by:

Ellen Mutino