Holyoke Public Library Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
October 13, 2026

Location: Holyoke Public Library Board Room and Zoom

Present	Member	Corporate/City
X	George Mettey, President	Corporate
X	Manuel Frau-Ramos, VP	Corporate
X	Meghan Connolly, Treasurer	City
X	Brenna Levitin, Clerk	City
X	Jacksiel Colon-Rodriguez	Corporate
X	Denise Duguay	Corporate
X	Victor Machado	Corporate
	Iohann Rashi Vega	Corporate
X	Jeremy Smith	City
X	Maggie Whitehead	City

Also present: Jason Lefebvre, Director; Alexandra Aguirre, Finance Manager; Karen Betournay, City Director pending City Council approval

Meeting was called to order at 5:36pm by George Mettey

Approve Minutes:

Manuel motioned to approve the July, August, and September 2026 minutes, Jacksiel seconded. **Motion passed unanimously.**

PRESIDENT'S UPDATES: George Mettey

- George ran the beautification project by the HPL Realty Corp and most of them were very happy with it, one of them has reservations about the pavilion part
- Mayor has appointed Karen Betournay as the next City Director, currently waiting on City Council approval
- Gabriela has resigned from the Board
- Omar Torres is interested in being a Corporate member
- There's another person who's also interested in being a Corporate member
- Ordinance Committee is meeting Wednesday at 6:30pm on two proposals, one for all Boards and Committees to forward them their minutes, and another to give them audio recordings of the meetings
- Committees
    - **Nominating Committee**
        - Manuel (chair)
        - Jacksiel
        - Viktor
    - **Personnel Committee**
        - George (chair)
        - Jason, ex officio
        - Denise
        - Karen (pending City Council)
    - **Planning Committee**
        - Dissolved
    - **Public Relations/Marketing**
        - Nancy, ex officio
        - Allie, ex officio
        - Jason, ex officio
        - [no Board members currently]
    - **Policy Committee**
        - Jason, ex officio
        - Jeremy (chair)
        - Brenna
        - Denise
    - **Strategic Planning (ad hoc)**
        - Maggie (chair)
        - Jacksiel
        - Jason, ex officio
        - Allie, ex officio
    - **Technology Committee**
        - Brenna (chair)
        - Jeremy
        - Manuel
        - Iohann

        - IT ex officio
        - Marc (AD), ex officio
    - **Fundraising Committee**
        - Currently deactivated
    - **Budget/Finance/Long-term Investment Committee**
        - Allie, ex officio
        - Meghan (chair)
        - George
    - **Building & Grounds**
        - Dissolved
    - **Puerto Rican Cultural Project**
        - Manuel (chair)
- Notes on Committees:
    - Denise will send the list of options for fundraising to Karen and the Board
    - We need to figure out relaunching Friends/fundraising
    - Personnel Committee tasks are to work with the Director on the hiring of librarians and to evaluate the Director at the end of the year

DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Jason Lefebvre

- Annual Meeting is next Tuesday at 6pm
- Reminder to get Jason any committee items for the agenda ideally the Wednesday before the meeting
- Windows resealed on 2nd and 4th floor
- Fire alarm and elevator inspections are complete
- Park project
    - We have the quote for the sign, we don't yet have the electrician quote yet
    - The $50,000 is to provide padding for the full project including electrical
    - Brenna motioned to approve $50,000 for the digital sign and infrastructure for the sign, the money to come either directly from the proceeds of the sale of the house, or from the endowment to be reimbursed by the proceeds of the sale of the house. Jacksiel seconded. **Motion passed unanimously.**

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE: Meghan Connolley

- Finance Committee met with local banks and recommends TruNorth bank
- Very committed to participating as volunteers to the library
- Good customer service
- Good rates (they'll match money market and CDs) and good terms

- This was originally intended to be just for the house proceeds, but we might also want to consider moving the day-to-day banking to TruNorth as well
- George motioned to accept TruNorth as the banker for the proceeds of the home sale. Viktor seconded. **Motion passed unanimously.**
- FY2027 Budget draft was sent by Allie, please review and share any questions with her
- She'll send a new draft shortly

Brenna moved to adjourn. Manuel seconded. **Motion passed unanimously.**

Meeting adjourned at 7:13pm.