

**CRANBURY PUBLIC LIBRARY  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
MINUTES**

September 12, 2024, 7:00 p.m.  
Cranbury Public Library, Meeting Room 3

**1. CALL TO ORDER AND ANNOUNCEMENT OF COMPLIANCE WITH PUBLIC MEETINGS**

**ACT** Pursuant to provisions of the Open Public Meeting Act, adequate notice of this meeting has been provided by the Library Director as follows: December 1, 2023 a notice for this meeting was sent to the Trenton Times, Home News Tribune, and Township Clerk and posted in the Public Library.  
Meeting called to order at 7:02 pm by President Andre Mento

**2. INTRODUCTIONS OF BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

Andre Mento, President - Present      Kirstie Venanzi, Vice-President - Present  
Ira Negin, Treasurer - Present      Michael Ferrante, Mayor's Representative - Present  
Vikranta Sharma, Trustee - Present      Michaele Kehrt, Trustee - Present  
Fred Dennehy, Trustee - Present      Christine Tu, Trustee - Present  
Emma Bossard, School Administrator's Representative - Absent  
Also to be present:  
Brooke Basista, Library Director - Present

**3. CONSENT AGENDA**

A. **Action on minutes from 8/8/24.** Minutes moved by M. Kehrt, seconded by V. Sharma, abstained by I. Negin, unanimously approved.

B. **Action on Bills from month end 8/31/24.** Bills and Treasurer's Report moved by K Venanzi and seconded by C. Tu, unanimously approved.

**4. TREASURER'S REPORT:** I. Negin reviewed as part of the Action on Bills, above.

**5. PRESIDENT'S REPORT:** A. Mento Mostly items to be covered in the facilities section.

**6. DIRECTOR'S REPORT:** B. Basista reported on a nice letter from Mayor El-Badawi thanking the library for hosting the senior lunch, partnership with Township Clerk's office to prepare for the General Election, partnership with Foundation for Cranbury Day, partnered with Cranbury School for library classes and One Book project, bookkeeper position still recruiting. Paved walkway from school will not line up with the asphalt path, we will need to consider re-aligning it after the school project is completed. Phone charger installed in Teen Zone, considering larger monitors for work-from-home spaces. Programming is going very well attended and the library staff is doing a great job. The Banned Book display was recently installed.

**7. REPRESENTATIVES' REPORTS:**

A. Mayor's Rep – general report

B. School Administrator/Rep – no report

C. Cranbury Public Library Foundation Rep – passive community mailing is going out soon,

Foundation partnered with Library for Cranbury Day.

**8. TRUSTEE COMMITTEE REPORTS**

A. Personnel: Chair- Kirstie Venanzi, Michaele Kehrt – no report

B. Finance: Chair – Chair- Ira Negin, Andre Mento – report included in above

C. Policy and Planning: Chair- Kirstie Venanzi, Fred Dennehy, Ira Negin, Vikranta Sharma – no report

D. Facilities Committee: Chair - Andre Mento, Michael Ferrante

- AC – root cause identified and B. Basista working with contractors and vendors to resolve

- Energy Audit – audit completed, no significant suggestions

- Rooftop Solar – committee heard presentation from PA-based solar company

**9. OLD BUSINESS** - none

**10. NEW BUSINESS**

A. Library Use Policy – B. Basista proposed changes to wording. Moved by M. Ferrante, Seconded by K. Venanzi, approved unanimously.

B. Rooftop Solar Proposal – B. Basista updated the board on the status of the project. Once a qualified bid is received, this can move forward with Township Committee approval via

ordinance.

C. Banned Book Resolution – B. Basista read the proposed resolution. Moved by K. Venanzi  
Seconded by C. Tu, approved unanimously.

**11. CORRESPONDENCE – None**

**12. OPEN DISCUSSION PERIOD – None**

**13. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mr. Guy Butterworth joined the meeting and thanked the library staff for supporting his needs, particularly Dean for technical support. He expressed his concern about current trends around banning books and supported the library mission. A. Mento re-iterated the policies in place to protect the library and the patrons.

**14. ADJOURNMENT.** Motion to adjourn by M. Ferrante, Seconded by I. Negin at 7:46 pm and approved unanimously.

Note:

This notice has been posted on the Cranbury Public Library website. The above agenda is as best known at the time of posting.