

Meeting minutes of the Board of Trustees of the University City Public Library for
November 12, 2025

Members present: Mark Barnes, Kim Deitzler, Aren Ginsberg, Dennis Hoppe, Jerrold Lander, Helen Nelling, Trish Winchell, Cindy Zirwes.

Members absent: none

City Council Liaison: Stacy Clay

Library staff: Patrick Wall—Director, Kerry Bruce, Cindy Deichmann

The meeting was held in hybrid format. Some board members and staff participated via Zoom, and the meeting was recorded; it is available for viewing on the Library's Facebook page and YouTube channel.

The meeting was called to order at 5:15 pm by Mark Barnes, President, followed by roll call.

Minutes – Aren Ginsberg made a motion that the minutes from the meeting on October 8, 2025 be approved, seconded by Kim Deitzler. Motion passed unanimously by roll call vote at 5:16 pm.

Correspondence – The Friends of the Library sent a letter along with a donation in memory of Jim Ballard, husband of former library director Linda Ballard. A patron sent a glowing email about one of our reference staff, Ruthie Rochman.

Council Liaison Report – Construction of the Dierbergs at the Markets at Olive development continues to be on track. The potential Enclave at Canton development is stalled; another project to develop that part of United Hebrew Cemetery will be sought.

President's Report – Mark Barnes apologized for missing the October meeting due to a medical issue. He encouraged Board members to take the City of University City survey.

Committee Reports

Budget & Finance – Met November 12. Rolled over T-bill at Commerce Bank. Recommended that full Board approve budget amendments as presented.

Building & Grounds – Met November 12. Ranieri has fixed the leak in the basement. Waiting for RG Ross to repair leaking windows. RFP to be published for downstairs restroom doors. Carpets were cleaned on November 11 while the library was closed to the public. Albert Arno came to fix the heat on November 12, and will be submitting a bid to be the library's HVAC provider, since the previous provider did not work out.

Long-Range Planning – Met November 11. Thanked Kerry Bruce for presenting survey data so that it could be reviewed. Will set up a staff focus group, and possibly patron focus groups to attempt to reach wider demographics. Next meeting will be in January 2026.

Personnel & Policy – Met November 11. Shared cataloging with Kirkwood Library has begun. Interviews are happening for part-time reference position, office manager, and shelver. Missing Child policy is tabled until December meeting so that Lashly & Baer's changes can be incorporated.

Librarian's Report – Helen Nelling made a motion to accept the consent agenda, seconded by Aren Ginsberg. Motion passed unanimously by roll call vote at 5:46 pm.

Action Items.

Missing child policy. Action on this policy was tabled until the next meeting so that changes from Lashly & Baer could be reviewed and incorporated.

Budget Amendments for first quarter of fiscal year 2025-2026. Jerrold Lander made a motion to accept the budget amendments totaling \$194,676.40 as recommended by the Budget & Finance Committee, seconded by Aren Ginsberg. Motion passed by roll call vote at 5:48 pm. Aye votes: Mark Barnes, Kim Deitzler, Aren Ginsberg, Dennis Hoppe, Jerrold Lander, Helen Nelling, Trish Winchell, Cindy Zirwes. Nay votes: none.

Old business – None.

New business – Kim Deitzler discussed setup for the staff holiday party at 5:30 on December 6; she will do shopping, board members can Venmo her to contribute. The Board thanked Cindy Deichmann for her service in light of her upcoming retirement.

Committee membership was reviewed:

- Budget & Finance: chair Helen Nelling, members Aren Ginsberg, Jerrold Lander, Trish Winchell
- Building & Grounds: chair Dennis Hoppe, members Aren Ginsberg, Jerrold Lander, Helen Nelling
- Long-Range Planning: chair Kim Deitzler, members Helen Nelling, Dennis Hoppe, Cindy Zirwes
- Personnel & Policy: chair Trish Winchell, members Helen Nelling, Dennis Hoppe, Cindy Zirwes

Public comment – None.

The next regularly scheduled Board meeting will be Wednesday, December 10, at 5:15 pm.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:01 pm.