

Thomas Crane Public Library
Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes
November 20, 2025
Main Library
Approved

Trustees Present

Liberty Schaaf, Secretary Roy Caley, Treasurer Arthur Foley, Patrick Walsh

Trustees Absent

Julia Wu, Peter Tam, Chair

Staff Present

Executive Director Sara Slymon, Deputy Director Theresa Tangney

Staff Absent

Technology Director Taylor Devlin

Call to Order

Liberty presided and convened the meeting at 8:36 AM.

Approval of October 2025 Minutes

Roy made a motion to approve October 2025 Meeting Minutes (amended), Liberty seconded, and all approved.

Executive Director's Report

Personnel

North Quincy – new Branch Librarian! Jackie Linsky comes to us from Weymouth with extensive experience.

The new Reference Coordinator, Elena O'Malley, comes to us from Emerson College with a wealth of experience

Tammy Van promoted to Assistant Reference Coordinator.

Dustin Baker promoted from Wollaston to a position at the Main Library.

Erica Ruscio is leaving North Quincy and coming to the Main Library to replace Rosie Smith as the Programming & Outreach Coordinator in the Reference Department.

3 employees are out on long term leave.

Facilities

Major electrical upgrade and conversion to all LED lighting at Main Library – a savings to City.

Programming and Technology

Taylor completed the Network Infrastructure Upgrade that she has been working on for over a year. Project replaced all switches and servers, all of which were beyond end of life. The Herculean task included working with Admin, City IT, Municipal Finance, the City Procurement agent, and multiple vendors. PP6 Henry Cheung was a tremendous asset as well. Systems should be effective for 5-10 years.

Google Workspace Migration project nearing completion. Library has historically been tied to OCLN for all email, document management, etc. (all G-Suite products), but too large for OCLN and these systems. Trustees will have own email addresses. Other upgrades include print from email service for the public, as well as wireless printing. Taylor was behind all this transition.

October After Hours very successful – w/ higher attendance and higher income than any other! Over 250 in attendance over 2 hours.

The “Quincy Collab” continues to thrive. The monthly gathering of QPD, Manet Health, Father Bills, the City’s Community Liaison, and our embedded social worker Carol.

Miscellaneous

Major national book jobber Baker & Taylor went out of business. With little notice, quickly transitioned to Ingram, the other major jobber, who is unable to take on any new clients due to the deluge of customers coming from B&T.

Held an orientation for new Trustee Julia Wu, with Peter and then with Liberty for new Trustee Patrick Walsh.

Union Negotiations continue.

Professional Development/Continuing Education

Sara spoke on the panel “It’s Like a Warzone: Stories from the Front Lines of Public Libraries” at Simmons College. There was great turnout but it was depressing content.

Sara attended the Directors Summit in Denver, Colorado. The event was 2 days, sponsored by Library Journal, and attended by Directors from all over the country. Sara found this refreshing and rewarding.

Treasurer’s Report

Citizens Account in good shape – November Balance \$173,382

Reimbursed \$2345 written for conferences, supplies, etc.

Schwab \$659,285 as of Oct 9th. Balance has dropped approximately 16% from a year ago.

Friends of the Library Report

October theme After Hours was big success. Canceled last meeting due to lack of quorum.

Old Business

New policy review –

Donor Recognition Policy. Art moved, Liberty seconded, all voted to accept.

New Business

Staff Appreciation Party planning.

Planning party for 1/30. 6:00 PM

Friday Dec 5th 5:00 pm. Heads of Department and Division Head Party in Richardson

Open Forum Period

No speaker

Adjournment

Liberty adjourned the meeting at 9:18 AM.

Next Meeting 12/18 at Main Library