HARTFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY

Minutes
of the Board of Directors Meeting
June 4, 2026
Noon

Present: Karen Taylor, *Chair*; Rick Costello; Floyd Green; Sara Lashetski; Patsy Mundy; Sarah Needham; Mark Overmyer-Velazquez; Phyllis Shikora; Tim Sullivan, Jr.; Tyrone Walker, and Robin Zaleski.

Also Present: Bridget E. Quinn, President and CEO; Gwen Cannon, Human Resources Director; Leticia Cotto, Chief Administrative Officer; Gina Federico, Director of Development; Marie Jarry, Chief Operating Officer; Brenda Miller, Executive Director, Culture and Communications; Homa Naficy, Executive Director, The American Place; Mary Tzambazakis, Chief Financial Officer and General Counsel; Karl Fisher, Finance Director, and Andrea Figueroa, Senior Executive Assistant.

1. Call to Order

Chair Karen Taylor called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m.

2. Consent Agenda

Board action: Motion was made to approve the consent agenda that included minutes of the April 2, 2026 Board of Directors meeting; minutes of the April 10, 2026 Governance Committee meeting, minutes of the April 28, 2026 Finance Committee meeting, minutes of the May 22, 2026 Finance Committee meeting, and minutes of the May 28, 2026 Executive Committee meeting. The motion was moved by Robin Zaleski and was seconded by Phyllis Shikora. The motion carried.

3. Mission Moment

Ms. Quinn introduced Marc Feldman Assistant Director of The American Place who gave an overview of one of the divisions of TAP, Building Pathways, Workforce and Economic Development.

4. President and CEO's Report

Ms. Quinn gave a brief report on the grand opening and events happening throughout the Library in its opening week. The President and CEO's report was shared in advance. Ms. Quinn shared some highlights of the report, such as Programming, Culture & Communications, and HPL Studios.

Ms. Quinn shared a transition at the end of June. Ms. Brenda Miller announced her retirement. She will return to a consulting role to help with the transition. Ms. Quinn read a proclamation in honor of Brenda's tenure at HPL from the Honorable Arunan Arulampalam.

5. Board Chair's Report

Ms. Karen Taylor gave her report. She reported on the Barbour Library groundbreaking and Downtown reopening – both had great community turnout. Ms. Taylor attended the HPL Studios dedication in recognition of the Sweetland Patricelli families. Ms. Taylor also acknowledged Ms. Quinn and the HPL team for the fabulous week of events related to the reopening of Downtown. She noted Board members about upcoming conversations regarding the annual CEO evaluation process and also discussed the process for Board leadership transitions and members on the Board completing their service terms.

6. Committees and Task Force Reports

Barbour Street Task Force

Ms. Quinn shared an update on the groundbreaking of the Barbour Library. The construction management team will be going out to bid and anticipate the start of construction in August/September. HPL has navigated through the easement issues, the appeals, and the zoning. The project is moving along.

Strategic Planning Task Force

Ms. Sara Lashetski shared a brief update on Strategic Planning. The Steering Committee (Sara, Bridget, Letty and Marie) are preparing to regroup in July to finalize the plan. A communication will be going out to the Strategic Planning Task Force.

7. New Business

Ms. Quinn shared a draft Executive Summary of the 2026-2031 Capital Plan that will be presented for discussion at the August Board meeting.

FY27 Budget

The budget was presented and shared in advance.

Ms. Quinn shared the certified resolution for Board Approval:

> "Whereas, Hartford Public Library has prepared the Fiscal Year 2026-27 total budget in the total amount of $14,600,659,
>
> Resolved, that fiscal year 2026-27 total budget be approved as presented to the Board of Directors of Hartford Public Library on Thursday, June 4, 2026."

Board action: Motion was made to adopt the FY26-27 Budget. The motion was moved by Timothy Sullivan, Jr. and was seconded by Tyrone Walker. The motion carried.

HPL Studios Use Policy

The HPL Studios Use Policy outlines the criteria for making Studio spaces available for use.

Board action: Motion was made to adopt the HPL Studios Use Policy. The motion was moved by Phyllis Shikora and was seconded by Sara L. The motion carried.

FY26-27 Holiday Calendar

Board action: Motion was made to adopt the FY26-27 Holiday Calendar. The motion was moved by Timothy Sullivan, Jr. and was seconded by Tyrone Walker. The motion carried.

8. Other Business

No other business to report.

9. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 1:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Bridget E. Quinn
President and CEO