

East Providence Public Library Board of Trustees
Meeting Minutes
Regular Meeting: October 1 at 4:30 PM at Riverside Branch Library

ROLL CALL

Pat Armstrong - present

Betsy Ingraham - present

Chris LaRoux - present

Peg Marcotte (Chair) - present

Paul Silva - present

Krystal Alves Amoroso - present

Nate Cahoon - absent

Also attending:

- Meredith Bonds-Harmon, Library Director
- Pamela Schwieger, Assistant Director

- Meeting called to order at 4:34pm
- Review and approval of September 2025 minutes - motioned, seconded, and minutes were approved with one correction of the spelling of Chris LeRoux's name.
- Director's Report - submitted and filed
 - Financial report
 - Personnel
 - Facilities
- Assistant Director's Report
 - Usage Stats
 - P. Schwieger highlighted the decline in Weaver Library circulation and door count that seemed to be a direct correlation to Weaver Library being closed for three days in August 2025 for the Redesign project.
 - Friends of EPPL
 - National Friends of Libraries Week - Oct. 19-25
 - Book Sale
 - Banned Books Week
 - P. Schwieger shared national Book Banning Stats from ALA and explained how challenges to books are handled at EPPL and nationally.
- Unfinished Business
 - Unresolved pay grade issue

- Invite attorney to the Nov trustee meeting for the purpose of understanding the steps of creating a library-only bargaining unit or bargaining unit subset.
 - Open meetings act - teleconferencing
 - P. Marcotte will reach out to the Secretary of State to see if our trustees can officially attend our trustee meetings remotely.
- New Business
 - Trustee bylaw review
 - Trustees are creating a subcommittee to update the bylaws. Members are: P. Marcotte, K. Alves Amoroso, B. Ingraham, M. Bonds-Harmon
 - Director evaluation
 - Trustees will need to do that
 - 2026 Schedule of meetings
 - Beginning in November 2025, the meeting time will change from 4:30 to 6:00pm.
 - January 2026 meeting will be on Mon 1/5/26 instead of Wed 1/7/26
 - April 2026 meeting will be on Wed 4/8/26 instead of Wed 4/1/26
 - June 2026 meeting will be on Wed 6/10/26 instead of Wed 6/3/26
 - 2026 Trustee project focus discussion
 - M. Bonds-Harmon proposed that the 2026 trustee project will be to create Board of Trustees policies/procedures including: onboarding, meeting reports, director evaluation, continuing education, etc.
 - Trustee continuing education opportunity - Thurs 11/6, 5pm, Weaver Library program room
 - P. Armstrong asked M. Bonds-Harmon to find out the cost of a United for Libraries membership.
- Public Comment
 - No community members were present.
- Adjournment: C. LaRoux motioned to adjourn. K. Amoroso seconded. Adjournment at 5:47.

Upcoming Meetings

November 5 - Weaver Library

December 3 - Riverside Branch Library, note: location change