East Brunswick Public Library
Board of Trustees Special Meeting
April 24, 2026

Attendees:

Dr. Joyce Boley
Lisa Gurevich
Joseph Palombit
Patricia Palumbo
Colleen Talbot

Karen Parry, Library Director
Maria Carmelo, Executive Administrative Assistant

Note: The meeting was held via Zoom conference.

Ms. Palumbo called the meeting to order. A roll call was made and a quorum was present. Ms. Palumbo stated that the meeting was advertised and the open public meeting act requirements were met.

All rose for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Financial Report:

The final budget cut for 2026 is $300,000.00.

Ms. Talbot made a motion to approve the April 22, 2026 Bill List. Mr. Palombit seconded. Voting yes: Dr. Boley, Ms. Gurevich, Mr. Palombit, Ms. Palumbo and Ms. Talbot. Voting no: None. Abstaining: None.

Resolution #10,907

Appointing a Library Board Attorney

WHEREAS, the East Brunswick Public Library Board of Trustees authorized the Township of East Brunswick to utilize its website for the benefit of the East Brunswick Public Library and to publish a legal advertisement for Requests For Quotations for the position of Library Board Attorney; and

WHEREAS, the Library Board received Qualification Statements from Cleary, Giacobbe, Alfieri, Jacobs, LLC, Eric M. Bernstein & Associates, Florio, Perrucci, Steinhardt, Cappelli & Tipton, LLC, Hatfield Schwartz Law Group LLC and Plosia Cohen LLC.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the East Brunswick Public Library Board of Trustees that it hereby appoints Hatfield Schwartz Law Group LLC – Douglas Zucker, Esq., as Library Board Attorney, effective April 1, 2026, through December 31, 2026, in accordance with the response to the Request for Quotations for the provision of professional services for the position of East Brunswick Public Library. In the case of a conflict for Hatfield Schwartz Law Group LLC – Douglas Zucker, Esq., Cleary, Giacobbe, Alfieri, Jacobs, LLC – Matthew Giacobbe, Esq. will serve as Library Board Attorney.

Dr. Boley made a motion to approve Resolution #10,907 – Appointing a Library Board Attorney. Ms. Talbot seconded. Voting yes: Dr. Boley, Ms. Gurevich, Mr. Palombit, Ms. Palumbo and Ms. Talbot. Voting no: None. Abstaining: None.

Resolution #10,908

Personnel Manual Update - Raffles

WHEREAS, the East Brunswick Public Library Personnel Manual currently states that library staff are prohibited from participating in any raffles or contests that are offered by the East Brunswick Friends of the Library or the East Brunswick Public Library Foundation;

WHEREAS, the East Brunswick Friends of the Library and the East Brunswick Public Library Foundation are separate entities from the East Brunswick Public Library;

WHEREAS, no conflict of interest exists should a staff member participate in a raffle or contest offered by the East Brunswick Friends of the Library or East Brunswick Public Library Foundation;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the East Brunswick Public Library Board of Trustees that staff should be permitted to participate in raffles or contests offered by the East Brunswick Friends of the Library and East Brunswick Public Library Foundation and that the East Brunswick Public Library Personnel manual will be updated accordingly to reflect this decision.

Ms. Talbot made a motion to approve Resolution #10,908 – Personnel Manual Update - Raffles. Dr. Boley seconded. Voting yes: Dr. Boley, Ms. Gurevich, Mr. Palombit, Ms. Palumbo and Ms. Talbot. Voting no: None. Abstaining: None.

Ms. Parry said a few words about the upcoming library closure. Staff did a fabulous job of mobilizing and planning 22 programs in the community as well as virtually, including cooking classes, reading clubs for people with disabilities and scheduling passport appointments at the Municipal Building. Full time staff will be working throughout the duration of the closure putting holds on books to be picked up at other libraries, answering reference questions and providing passport and notary services. Part-time staff will be paid for two out of the three weeks as per the collective bargaining agreement and will be given the option to make up hours lost during the third week of the closure when the library reopens.

Ms. Talbot made a motion to cancel the Library Board of Trustees meeting scheduled for May 19, 2026. Ms. Gurevich seconded. Voting yes: Dr. Boley, Ms. Gurevich, Mr. Palombit, Ms. Palumbo and Ms. Talbot. Voting no: None. Abstaining: None.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Lisa Gurevich, Secretary