TENAFLY PUBLIC LIBRARY
MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING
September 14, 2026

The Board of Trustees of the Tenafly Public Library met on September 14, 2026 at 7:00p.m. at the library for its regular Board meeting,

Board Members Present: President Martin Gilbert, Vice President Kathleen Cook, Jennifer Juhng, Julie Lev, Yelena Meytes, Nicole Motz (Zoom), and Elizabeth Warms
Absent: David DiGregorio
Staff Present: Library Director Julie Marallo and Administrative Assistant Marissa Musse.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00p.m. Julie Marallo reported that notices of the meeting had been posted and sent to the media.

Minutes
Board members approved the Minutes of the regular Board meeting of June 8, 2026. Moved by: Elizabeth Warms. Seconded by: Kathleen Cook. Unanimously approved.

Treasurer's Report
Martin Gilbert reviewed with the Board the Library's Financial Statements for June, July, and August 2026. He noted that he had examined and approved of the statements and reported that they were current and accurate. A motion was made to approve the financial reports. Moved by: Elizabeth Warms. Seconded by: Julie Lev. Unanimously approved.

The Board discussed the September 16, 2026 renewal of the restricted Wilcox Fund at Valley Bank. A motion was made to renew the CD at the highest interest rate available. Moved by: Martin Gilbert. Seconded by: Nicole Motz. Unanimously approved.

Correspondence None.

Director's Report
Children's Room Project
Julie Marallo thanked Yelena Meytes and Nicole Motz for their hard work on the committee for the renovations of the Children's Room. Julie Marallo discussed how the renovations went smoothly and we are only waiting for a few small pieces for the room to be complete. Nicole Motz stated it was great working with Children's Librarian Latricia Markle because of the thought she put into the project.

Library Attorney
Julie Marallo discussed the retirement of Library Attorney Eric Steinberg. She reached out to other Library Directors for attorney suggestions and many suggested Douglas Zucker. Julie Marallo spoke with him via Zoom and stated he was very knowledgeable and had her recommendation.

The following Resolution was approved by the Board of Trustees:

APPOINTMENT OF LIBRARY BOARD ATTORNEY TO THE TENAFLY PUBLIC LIBRARY

WHEREAS, the Tenafly Public Library Board of Trustees has general library and other public sector legal matters that must be referred to legal counsel; and

WHEREAS, the Tenafly Public Library Board of Trustees also has recurring labor and personnel issues that must be referred to legal counsel; and

WHEREAS, the Local Public Contracts Law (N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5(1)(a)(i)) requires that the award of a contract hiring a professional for professional services without competitive bids must be approved by a resolution passed by the governing body, and that notice of the contract award must be published on the governing body's website; and

WHEREAS, Douglas S. Zucker, Esq. of Hatfield Schwartz Law Group LLC, located in Cedar Knolls, New Jersey is an attorney in good standing in the State of New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, Douglas S. Zucker, Esq. has the requisite background and experience to advise the Tenafly Public Library Board of Trustees on the aforesaid legal matters.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Tenafly Public Library Board of Trustees that Douglas S. Zucker, Esq., of Hatfield Schwartz Law Group LLC, located in Cedar Knolls, New Jersey, be appointed Library Board Attorney to the Tenafly Public Library for a one-year term commencing on September 10, 2026 at a fee of $225.00 per hour; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees authorizes notice of the award of this contract to be published on the Library's website in accordance with applicable law; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Library Director is authorized to execute the agreement and any related documents on behalf of the Library.

Dated: September 14, 2026

Moved by: Martin Gilbert

Seconded by: Julie Lev

Voting as follows:
Kathleen Cook – Aye
Martin Gilbert - Aye
Jennifer Juhng – Aye
Nicole Motz - Aye
Julie Lev – Aye
Yelena Meytes - Aye
Elizabeth Warms – Aye

President's Report
None.

Old Business None.

New Business
The Board recommended that the library have a Grand Opening Celebration in fall or winter to welcome the community to enjoy the wonderful renovations made to the Teen Area and the Children's Room.

Report from the Mayor's Alternate None.

Report from the Superintendent's Alternate None.

Citizen's Portion of the Meeting.
None.

Any Other Business
None.

Adjournment
The meeting adjourned at 7:40p.m. Moved by: Yelena Meytes Seconded by: Elizabeth Warms
Unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Martin Gilbert
President

The next regular meeting of the Library Board of Trustees will be Monday, October 19, 2026 at 7:00p.m.

Approved: October 19, 2026