

**Attleboro Public Library Board of Trustees
Meeting Minutes March 11, 2026**

The meeting was called to order by Diane Mangiaratti at 6:32 p.m.

ATTENDEES

Trustees: Cindy Lorincz, Diane Mangiaratti, Charlie Oliver, Mahesh Patel, David Pierce, Tobey Reed, Tricia Svendsen

Director: Amy Rhilinger

1. Introductions

None

2. Minutes of February Meeting

A motion was made to approve the minutes from the February meeting as presented.

The motion passed.

3. Business Required by Law

None

4. Treasurer's Report

Mahesh presented Warrant #7 in the amount of \$4,004.04

Donations received in memory of Jane Larkin include \$16.79. A motion was made to accept the donation. It passed.

Mahesh reported that 42% of the budget has been spent at this time. Charlie asked about Technology B-1 on the financial report. Amy explained that the \$184.99 involved a reassigning of funds for an allotment for HotSpots.

Mahesh reported the balance in the Santander account is \$7,612.94, and the investment account balance is \$2,089,531.00. A motion was made to transfer the amount of the warrant and accept the Treasurer's report as presented. The motion passed.

5. Committee Reports

Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee presented the following slate of officers for FY '27:

President - David Pierce

Vice President - Tobey Reed

Treasurer - Mahesh Patel

Secretary - Tricia Svendsen

A motion was made to accept the slate. It was approved.

6. Director's Report

Amy submitted a report and commented on the following:

- There is new Directory signage near the elevator.
- The HVAC system is five years old, and the warranty has expired. Charlie asked about the \$10,000 cost of repairs. Amy said it has to go out to bid, but that she is working to get it completed, so they will not face another winter with heating issues.
- Reviews of non-union employees/department heads by Human Resources and the Mayor have taken place. Amy met with the Mayor for her review.

- Power outages have caused a few problems. Technicians have had to come in and reset the elevator to get it running again.
- The Attleboro Area Interfaith Collaborative will be presenting a panel discussion on food this spring as part of the Community Read *Bite by Bite*.
- There is a new opportunity, as of March 10, through Spirit Wear to purchase tee shirts, hoodies and other gear that features Melvin, the Library mascot. This online promotion benefits the Library with a percentage of the sales directed to the Friends of APL.

7. Unfinished Business

A. Strategic Plan Update

Amy provided Board members with copies of the Long Range Plan which was approved in 2022. She mentioned that a plan is required by the state for eligibility for grant money. In reference to the stated goals, she reported that as part of meeting the goal of Lifelong Learning, they are no longer purchasing CDs due to lack of patron use of them, and they decide on programs based on local needs and interests. Community Connecting involves providing events and involving local organizations, while User-Friendly Facilities has staff observant of patrons' needs and wants. Meaningful Marketing led to a discussion on making inroads to South Attleboro, which has been a portion of the community that some feel is left out of the city's services. David asked if there are statistics on South Attleboro Library users. Amy said there is a way to collect that information. The question posed is "Is South Attleboro being short-changed, and if so, how could this be remedied?"

The Plan is in effect through FY 2027.

B. Self-checkout

Tricia reported that in an informal survey of 14 libraries, 7 reported utilizing self-checkout. Amy suggested that not all library workers are proponents of this option and suggested speaking with a retired director whose library had a self-checkout system.

8. New Business

New Board Member

Renee Danho was sworn in online as a member of the Attleboro Public Library Board of Trustees.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Next meeting: April 8, 2026 at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Tricia Svendsen