



Free Library of Northampton Township

Library Board Meeting

September 3, 2026

Board Members Present: Larry Blumenthal (President), Eleanora Rosso (Vice President), Jessica Freundel (Treasurer), Janet Braker (Secretary), Charles Beem, Chip Heim, Spyros Stavrakas

Staff Present: Wayne Lahr (Library Director)

Citizens Present: None

Call to Order: President called the meeting to order at 6:33 PM.

Reading of Library Mission and Vision Statement

Eleanora Rosso read the Mission and Vision Statements.

Approval of June 2026 minutes

The Board approved the Minutes unanimously.

Library Director Report

The Director distributed his monthly report in advance of the meeting.

Discussion items:

- The Board lauded the Professional Development Day with the Council Rock School District librarians. The Director was able to acquaint them with services that are available to them. We are looking to supplement services and resources to which they may not have access within their system. FLNT was able to send some literature about the library, and freebie Highlighters for students, to the CRHS South Back to School Night for distribution.
- The subscription for our e-resource, Creativebug, will not be extended past April 2027 due to very minimal usage by patrons. We've experimented with the app for 3 years with diminishing statistics. We have been holding adult crafting programs using the resource as a tool for the programs. While the app will no longer be available, it is possible adult crafting classes will continue – TBD. A concern was mentioned about these classes only being available during the day.
- The library has purchased a setoff new security cameras and the peripherals for the system. Expected installation is prior to end of the year.
- Facility painting projects continue to move forward. The Director is in search of a contractor to repaint the library book carts.

- Northampton Day is scheduled for Sunday, October 4, from 10 AM – 4 PM. The library will have its tent and information tables on site and Board volunteers are welcome to participate.
- Mark your calendars for Saturday, October 10. This will be the next date for professional development sessions offered by BCFL for Directors and Trustees. Registration requests have already been distributed to Board members county-wide.

Discussion – Next Steps for Library Renovation Funding

Larry initially raised questions to ascertain interest in capital fundraising campaign to fund the facility renovations. He suggested we consider three options: Full renovation; begin with one or two “model projects”; or, to postpone the process for now.

Discussion ensued about the feasibility of various approaches. Questions and consideration of the balance between raising funds privately and what we can fund as a public entity were raised. Eventually, it was felt that we need a Campaign Readiness Study to evaluate the many pending questions. The Director will attempt to have the issue presented to the Township Board of Supervisors to provide funding for the Study in the 2027 Budget. The Board has received presentations from two fundraising firms and the Director will re-distribute all of the notes, documents, presentations, and recordings of the presentations to the Board members for review.

Discussion – Next Steps and Processes for Updating Strategic Plan for 2027 and beyond

We discussed how to update our current strategic plan for 2027 and beyond. We decided to review the entire strategic plan along with notes or summaries of what has been done to date under each of the Priorities. The Director will re-distribute the summaries originally provided over each of the meetings in the first half of the year via email.

Public Comment: None

For the Good of the Order / Miscellaneous: None

Next Meeting: Thursday, October 10 at 6:30 pm.

Adjournment:

Meeting was adjourned at 8:44 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Janet Braker (Secretary)

Date: 9/3/2026