

BOARD OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES FOR BALTIMORE COUNTY

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

August 4, 2026

A meeting of the Board of Library Trustees was held on Tuesday, August 4, 2026, via Zoom. The meeting was called to order at 8:00 am by Board President Ms. Ganguly. Other Board members present were Ms. Cheikh, Ms. Cruz, Dr. Lin, Mr. Netzer, and Ms. West. Ms. Walsh David was absent.

Staff attending: Ms. Baker, Ms. Beegle, Ms. Evans, Ms. Leitch, and Ms. Romney.

Communications

Minutes

The Board approved the minutes of the June 16, July 14, and July 21, 2026, meetings **(West/Cruz)**.

Dr. Lin-Chen and Ms. Cheikh joined the meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Award of Contract for RFP 2026-P-04 Government Affairs

Ms. Beegle introduced the contract and outlined the impact Cornerstone has had on fundraising and communication with legislators over the years. She highlighted their work to make sure BCPL staff had access to legislators throughout the year, keeping BCPL's needs in front of elected officials. Cornerstone has assisted BCPL in securing roughly \$100 million.

During the discussion Dr. Lin-Chen had connectivity issues, and the meeting paused for a few minutes while she rejoined.

Trustees discussed the cost of the contract, whether Cornerstone would be needed in FY 27, and if the decision should be made by the new Executive Director. It was also suggested that the contract be awarded and reviewed for subsequent years.

The Board voted to not award the contract until a new Executive Director can participate in the choice **(Lin-Chen/Netzer)**. Aye: Cheikh, Ganguly, Lin-Chen, Netzer, and West. Nay: Cruz.

Communications - continued

Closed Session Statement for June 16, 2026

Ms. Ganguly shared that the Board met in closed session on June 16, 2026, at 9:22 am at the Towson Library to discuss a personnel matter.

Ms. Cheikh, Dr. Lin-Chen, Mr. Netzer, Ms. Walsh David, and Ms. West voted to close the session. Ms. Ganguly and Ms. Cruz were absent. Dr. Lin-Chen did not attend the closed session.

The meeting was closed under the General Provisions Article § 3-305 (b) (1) to consider personnel matters related to a specific employee or employees.

The Board discussed the termination of an employee. Except Dr. Lin-Chen, who did not attend the closed session, all members voting to close the session were present, as were Ms. Beegle, Ms. Baker, and Ms. Romney.

After their discussion, the Board adopted minutes for the Closed Session; no other votes were taken.

New Business -continued

Amendment to the MOU with IAMAW for FY 2027

The Board approved an amendment to the MOU for FY 2027 to reflect a change in the amount of the Cost-of-Living Adjustment from 2% to 3%. This change aligns BCPL with Baltimore County and BCPL's FY 2027 Budget already reflects a COLA at 3%. The COLA will be effective in the pay period that includes January 1st, 2027 **(Cheikh/Lin-Chen)**.

CLOSED SESSION AND ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Ganguly called for a motion to close the public portion of the meeting at 8:42 am under General Provisions Article § 3-305 (b) (1) to consider personnel matters related to a specific employee or employees and to adjourn from closed session **(Cruz/Lin-Chen)**. Aye: Cheikh, Cruz, Ganguly, Lin-Chen, Netzer, and West. Absent: Ms. Walsh David.

A statement about the closed session will be provided at the next regular meeting of the Board.

Submitted by

Anne West

Secretary to the Board of Library Trustees