

James V. Brown Board Meeting Minutes
Thursday, January 15th at 12:00 PM
In-person and Zoom

Trustees Present: Brette Confair, President; Rev. Kyle D. Murphy, Vice President; Rick Mirabito, Secretary; Dr. Timothy Bowers

Trustees Present Virtually: Dr. Brooke Beiter, John Confer, Gloria Greevy, Mayor Derek Slaughter

Trustees Absent: Marshall Welch III, Treasurer

Trustee Emeriti Absent: Thomas Burkholder, Trisha Gibbons Marty

Guests Present: Tom Zimmerman, Friends of the Library

Library Staff Present: Amy Resh, Chief Executive Officer & Director; Kristin Caringi, Chief Financial Officer/Chief Operations Officer; Robbin Degeratu, Assistant Director; Marci Hubler, Collections and Technical Services Director; Savannah Lorson, Development, Marketing and Public Relations Director; Nicole Rader, Programming and Youth Services Director; Nina Riggle, Executive Assistant to the CEO

The meeting was called to order by President Brette Confair at 12:01 PM.

Mission Moment: The Teen Advisory Group hosted Folklore Exploration for ages 5-8 on December 18, collaborating with Jacquie Weaver to create story-based activities. Participants enjoyed interactive storytelling, folklore-inspired art, and a "Tortoise and the Hare" inspired sack race.

Minutes: Rev. Kyle Murphy motioned to approve the December 2025 minutes. Rick Mirabito seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

Committee Reports:

- 2026 Committee Appointments
 - The 2026 Committee Appointments were available for trustees to review.
 - The Development Committee will include John Confer, Chair; Marshall Welch III, and Brette Confair.

Treasurer's Report - CFO/COO – Kristin Caringi

Highlights:

- James V. Brown Library received \$2,500 from UPMC and \$2,500 from Weis for EITC in December.
- Kristin Caringi presented the January-December 2025 financial statements.
- The Capital Improvement Fund is in line with the proposed budget.
- Rick Mirabito motioned to approve the treasurer's report. Rev. Kyle Murphy seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

Chief Executive Officer & Director's Report – Amy Resh

Highlights:

- Amy Resh presented the January CEO & Director's report.
- Upcoming Events
 - Staff Appreciation, January 28 from 3-5 PM, in the Lowry Room
 - "Booked for Laughs", March 21, 2026, at the Pajama Factory, Community Room
 - Sips and Stories, May 16, 2026, at New Trail Brewing
 - Boots, Brews, and BBQ, July 23, 2026, at Herman & Luther's
 - Library Gala, date and location to be determined
- The 2025 Annual Fund campaign surpassed last year's total by \$10,000.
- 2025 Year in Review
 - Amy Resh presented the Year in Review.
- Trustees requested another date to consider for a paid-staff holiday in lieu of Election Day. The library cannot be a polling place based on the location of the wards.

Old Business

- None

New Business

- Resolution for the Waiver of District Aid Standards - 2023-2024
 - BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Directors of the James V. Brown Library requests a waiver of district aid standards for the fiscal year 2024-2025.
 - Rick Mirabito motioned to accept the waiver of district aid standards. Rev. Kyle Murphy seconded the motion.
 - The waiver is a blanket waiver for any standards not being met.
 - Tracy Carey and Amy Resh will be reviewing the District Aid Standards.
 - Tracy Carey will report the number of district centers not meeting standards after the submission date has passed.
- Long Range Plan Update
 - Each department director gave an update on work done toward the goal in the long range plan.
 - Robbin Degeratu is gathering data and analyzing the use of the Barbour's Link Library in Plunkett's Creek Township.

Friends of the James V. Brown Library Report – Tom Zimmerman, President

- There have been some changes within leadership, and committees are being reorganized.
- The Friends of the James V. Brown Library have signed an MOU with the James V. Brown Library.

Announcements:

- The Board received a thank you card from the staff of the library.

Brette Confair adjourned the public meeting at 1:10 PM.

Meeting dates for 2026: February 19, March 19, April 16, May 21, June 18, July 16, August 20, September 17, October 15, November 19, December 17

Minutes recorded and respectfully submitted by Nina Riggle.