



**Board of Trustees Meeting  
Ogden Farmers' Library  
269 Ogden Center Rd, Spencerport NY, 14559  
September 15, 2025, 5:00 PM  
Agenda**

- |   |              |         |
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| <b>I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES</b>   | Shelly       | page 3  |
| <b>II. PUBLIC COMMENTS</b>  | Shelly       |         |
| <b>III. MEMBER LIBRARY DIRECTOR'S REPORT</b>                            | Cohen        |         |
| <b>IV. FINANCIAL CLAIMS</b>   | Hasselwander | page 7  |
| <b>V. REPORTS</b>   |              |         |
| 1. Liaison Reports  |              |         |
| a. To Rochester Regional Library Council                                | Knapp        |         |
| b. From Rochester Public Library Board                                  | Clasper      |         |
| c. From Friends & Foundation of the RPL                                 | Borgus       |         |
| 2. Staff Reports  |              |         |
| a. Director's Report  | Clasper      | page 16 |
| b. MCLS Associate Director's Report                                     | Smathers     | page 18 |
| <b>VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS</b>  |              |         |
| None  |              |         |
| <b>VII. NEW BUSINESS</b>  |              |         |
| 1. Presidential Appointments- Committees and Liaisons                   | Shelly       | Handout |
| 2. Nominating Committee Election  | Shelly       | page 9  |
| 3. Executive Committee Election   | Shelly       | page 9  |
| 4. Presidential Appointment- Ad hoc Bylaws Committee                    | Shelly       | page 9  |
| 5. NYS Library Construction Grant Allocations                           | Smathers     | page 10 |
| 6. Wired For Opportunity, Professional Services Amendment               | Hasselwander | page 10 |
| 7. Monroe County Capital Improvement Program (CIP)<br>2027-2032 Request | Hasselwander | page 10 |
| <b>VIII. ANNOUNCEMENTS</b>  |              |         |
| <b>IX. ADJOURNMENT</b>  |              |         |

**Next Meeting:  
Monday, October 20, 2025, 5:00 p.m.  
Central Library, 115 South Avenue, 14620**





**Meeting of the MCLS Board of Trustees  
Central Library  
August 18, 2025  
Minutes**

**Trustees Present:** Gary Brandt, Kimberly Brown, Christopher Corcoran, Peter Knapp, Mei Qi, Marjorie Shelly, Suzanne Stockman, Jamia Williams (quorum present)

**Trustees Excused:** Amy Moffitt, Francesca Padilla

**Trustees Unexcused:** None

**Staff and Guests:** Monroe County Law Dept. Liaison, Keana Williams; staff members, Emily Clasper, Katy Hasselwander, Debi Mansour, BJ Scanlon, Jennifer Smathers

**Call to Order**

President Shelly called the meeting to order at 5:02 p.m., welcomed trustees, staff, and guests, and noted a quorum was present.

**Public Comments**

There were no members of the public wanting to address the board.

**Meeting Minutes**

The minutes of the June meeting were APPROVED AS PRESENTED.

**Claims**

Finance Mgr. Hasselwander reviewed the financial claims with the trustees and offered to answer questions.

*Trustee Williams joined the meeting at 5:04 p.m.*

After a brief discussion, Trustee Knapp MADE A MOTION to approve the financial claims as presented. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

**Introduction**

President Shelly welcomed new trustee Jamia Williams. Trustee Williams introduced herself.

**Liaison from the Rochester Public Library (RPL)**

Director Clasper reported that the RPL Board appointed some new trustees to fill partial-term vacancies and approved several standard annual professional services agreements and contracts—including for the Foodlink Café and the Library Store agreement with FFRPL.

*Trustee Brown joined the meeting at 5:11 p.m.*

**Rochester Regional Library Council (RRLC) Liaison**

None

### **Director's Report/Central Library**

Director Clasper reported that new trustee orientation is scheduled and will be a joint session for MCLS and RPL to address areas of overlap while also clarifying distinctions.

She noted that RPL and MCLS received significant press coverage this summer, particularly regarding the installation of solar tables at ten locations across the county. These tables have been well received by local communities, users, and funders. Director Clasper explained that while libraries may advise and assist communities interested in purchasing their own tables, the branded “Wired for Opportunity” tables are not intended for library sites since libraries already provide Wi-Fi. She confirmed the tables are designed for year-round use, with wireless and wired charging available, though weather may affect solar charging in extreme conditions. The unveiling event was attended by Legislator Fraser, Congressman Morelli, County Executive Bello, and several county legislators, and generated strong media coverage.

### **MCLS Office**

Associate Director Smathers offered to answer questions regarding the written report. She reported that the “Libraries are for Everyone” banner, designed by staff in her office, debuted at the Rochester Pride Parade and will continue to be used at future events. She noted that Webster Library created a float that appeared in both the Pride Parade and the Fireman's Parade.

She stated that the ILS RFP team has been formed with broad representation from member libraries and staff at various levels, including her participation. The team has begun identifying system needs in preparation for issuing a request for proposals in January. Input will be gathered from multiple staff groups and stakeholders to ensure the process is comprehensive and community driven.

Associate Director Smathers explained that the current system, Carl X, is used by fewer than a dozen libraries nationwide, and the team is exploring a range of possible replacements. She described recent developments in library system technologies and noted that several vendors could meet the consortium's needs. She acknowledged that a change may require significant financial investment, but discussions with the county and member library directors have begun, and potential efficiencies may offset some costs.

She further reported that the annual construction grant process from the state is beginning a new cycle. Recommendations for allocations will be brought to the board next month, while the previous year's allocations remain under state review.

Director Clasper added that Sarah Lehman will start as the new Associate Director for the Central Library in early September.

### **Proposed New Report**

Director Clasper reported on a proposed new format for the monthly report. She explained that the current version is approximately 40 pages long and requires an estimated 60 to 70 hours of staff time to produce each month across multiple contributors. A draft model was prepared, using the April report as a sample, with the goal of streamlining the content while maintaining essential information.

She stated that the revised format would reduce the time burden on staff by focusing less on individual member library activities and more on the services MCLS provides to its libraries. Director Clasper emphasized the

importance of ensuring the report continues to provide trustees with the information needed to make informed decisions and invited comments on the draft to confirm that it meets board needs.

After a review of the sample report and discussion about the value and applicability of different types of information, the trustees agreed that the new report format should be implemented. Additionally, Associate Director Smathers will send a document to the trustees listing links to the social media sites for all of the member libraries.

In response to a question about the Directors' Council, Director Clasper clarified that any concerns or important updates from the member library directors will be brought to the board by her or Associate Director Smathers.

#### **Other Business**

President Shelly reminded everyone to respond to the survey that was sent out by Debi Mansour regarding interest in committees and liaison roles.

#### **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

*Emily Clasper, Secretary*



**MONROE COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM  
FINANCIAL CLAIMS 2025**

MON	DAY	CLAIM VO	VENDOR	DESCRIPTION	EXPENDED	REMARKS
6	13	2000656458	11101918- Ogden Farmer's Library	ONLINE FINES DEC 1, 2024-MAY 31, 2025	\$ 376.67	
7	23	2000656467	11103128- RRLC	MEMBERSHIP DUES 7/1/25-6/30/25	\$ 2,250.00	
7	23	2000656467	11103128- RRLC	ELD HUB SERVICE 7/1/25-6/30/26	\$ 2,373.00	
8	1	-	-	-	\$ 755.35	County Journal for Fleet Maintenance Fuel & Repairs
8	4	2000656519	11117594- TMOBILE	MIFI CHARGES	\$ 21,226.58	ARPA FUNDS
8	8	2000657585	11102541- UNIQUE MANAGEMENT SERVICES	MATERIAL RECOVERY 2025	\$ 2,381.40	
8	8	2000658012	11128531- LITERACY ROCHESTER	BRANCH HOURS: JULY 2025	\$ 5,407.50	ARPA FUNDS
8	12	2000657928	11109903- OVERDRIVE	MATERIALS HOLD	\$ 170.43	
8	12	2000657928	11109903- OVERDRIVE	MATERIALS HOLD	\$ 1,670.54	
8	12	2000657928	11109903- OVERDRIVE	MATERIALS HOLD	\$ 1,672.84	
8	13	2000657789	11120635- CROWN CASTLE	INTERNET	\$ 2,075.00	
8	13	2000658026	11129036- CCI	LIBRARY 2-RING CASE W/ LOCK	\$ 7,662.00	ARPA FUNDS
8	13	2000657789	11120635- CROWN CASTLE	DTS	\$ 16,942.88	FEES INCREASED
					<b>\$ 64,964.19</b>	





September 2025

### NEW BUSINESS (BOARD ACTIONS)

#### *NOMINATING COMMITTEE ELECTION (SHELLY)*

**Board Action Requested: A motion to elect Trustees Peter Knapp, Francesca Padilla, and Jamia Williams to serve as the Nominating Committee with Trustee Knapp as the chair.**

Details: Article VII (4) of the MCLS Board of Trustees bylaws states,

"The Nominating Committee shall have three (3) members, all of whom shall be elected by the Board of Trustees at its September meeting. The committee shall present a slate of officers for the upcoming fiscal year at its June meeting."

Article VI (2) states,

"If a trustee resigns before expiration of his or her term of five years, the Board of Trustees, upon recommendation of the Nominating Committee, shall, by majority vote, fill the vacancy left for the balance of term. (Education Law, Section 226)."

#### *EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ELECTION (SHELLY)*

**Board Action Requested: A motion to elect Trustees Gary Brandt and Suzanne Stockman to serve on the Executive Committee.**

Details: Article VII (3) of the MCLS Board of Trustees bylaws states,

"An Executive Committee of five (5) members shall consist of the President, Vice- President, past President if he or she is a current member of the board, and two or three other trustees elected by the Board for a maximum of five members. The Executive Committee, in intervals between meetings of the Board, may transact such business of the Board as the Trustees may authorize, except to make removals from office (Education Law, Section 226)."

President Marjorie Shelly, Vice-President Amy Moffitt and past President Christopher Corcoran will complete the committee.

#### *BYLAWS REVIEW AD HOC COMMITTEE (SHELLY)*

**Board Action Requested: A motion to establish an ad hoc committee to review the bylaws with members to be appointed by the board president.**

Details: A regular review is highly recommended to ensure the bylaws align with current law and the board's practices. Reviewing bylaws helps prevent errors, ensures good governance, and helps maintains compliance with applicable laws and regulations.

Article VII (2) of the current bylaws states,

"The Board of Trustees shall have the power to establish committees. The President shall have the power to make committee appointments, except for the Nominating Committee. "

*NYS LIBRARY CONSTRUCTION GRANT ALLOCATIONS (SMATHERS)*

**Board Action Requested: A motion to allocate \$1,757,857 in construction grant funding from New York State for MCLS libraries as follows: \$24,955 to the Newman Riga Library for project 0386-26-1728; \$62,500 to the Seymour Public Library for project 0386-26-1759; and \$1,670,402 to the Rochester Public Library for project 0386-26-1688.**

Details: Each year, the MCLS is awarded a set amount of NYS funding to allocate to member libraries for eligible construction projects. This year, the construction program has \$1,757,857 available for MCLS. Amanda Madigan (Pittsford -large), Grace Engelbrecht (Parma -medium), and Lyla Grills (Mendon -small) served on the review team. The team's recommended allocations will support the following projects:

Newman-Riga Community 0386-26-1728 Library Bathroom Relocation Project

100% of requested grant funds \$24,955 of the total project at \$49,910

Seymour Public Library 0386-26-1759 Entry Door Accessibility Project

100% of requested grant funds \$62,500 of the total project at \$125,200

Rochester Public Library 0386-26-1688 New Fernwood Branch Library

95% of requested grant funds \$1,670,402 of the total project at \$3,896,890

*WIRED FOR OPPORTUNITY, PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AMENDMENT (HASSELWANDER)*

**Board Action Requested: A motion to approve an amendment to a professional services agreement with Brilliant Repairs with a term of July 1, 2025–December 31, 2026, increasing the maximum compensation to an amount not to exceed \$137,480.**

Details: On June 16, 2025, the MCLS Board approved a professional service agreement with Brilliant Repairs for the delivery of digital literacy classes, part of the Wired for Opportunity project. The original agreement approved a maximum compensation of \$129,360, which amounted to 264 classes. The library desires to increase the class length and the number of classes provided by the contractors. The proposed amendment will increase compensation to \$137,480, allowing eight additional hours of instruction per month.

*MONROE COUNTY CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (CIP) 2027-2032 REQUEST (HASSELWANDER)*

**Board Action Requested: A motion to approve the MCLS 2027–2032 County CIP Request of \$1,410,000 for Library Automation and \$280,000 for Fleet Replacement totaling \$1,690,000.**

Details: The MCLS has two projects to submit for the upcoming CIP cycle:

Automation: This capital program focuses on annual costs associated with hardware maintenance, storage/archival needs, and the MCLS' business continuity planning (including uninterrupted power supply system and backup server hardware). Several large expenses are currently eligible for up to 85% reimbursement through Federal E-rate funds, heavily discounting the overall costs of necessary expenses including firewall, wireless access points, etc. We are requesting support of \$210,000 in 2027, with an annual increase of \$10,000. This annual increase anticipates a continuation in rising equipment costs.

This results in a total six-year cost of \$1,410,000 and will be requested as part of the upcoming County CIP process.

Fleet Replacement: MCLS delivery includes daily pickup and drop-off of library material returns, requests/holds, and interoffice mail. The MCLS fleet consists of three box trucks that run three static routes averaging 62 miles per day to 32 library locations, as well as special service support for library material outreach services and special collection partners such as The Strong. Based on the previous operating lease and use history, the fleet will be replaced every five years, with the cost of new vehicles offset by trade-in

valuation at the point of sale. We are requesting \$280,000 for replacement in 2028. The next cyclical allocation will occur in 2033. This cycle was previously pushed out to 2029, but due to the expected time needed to procure the vehicles, we are proposing the allocation be moved back to 2028, to allow the new vans to be operational within the 5-year replacement timeline.

The total CIP request for 2027–2032 will be \$1,690,000.

	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	Total
Library Automation	210,000	220,000	230,000	240,000	250,000	260,000	1,410,000
Fleet Replacement	0	280,000	0	0	0	0	280,000
Total	210,000	500,000	230,000	240,000	250,000	260,000	1,690,000

MCLS AT A GLANCE (JAN–AUG)

MCLS Libraries  
have circulated  
**4,666,586**  
items YTD  
Up **10%** from 2024



MCLS Libraries  
have circulated  
**6,130**  
MiFis YTD  
Up **78%** from 2024



The Shipping Dept.  
has moved  
**1,064,677**  
items YTD  
Up **2%** from 2024



Technical Services  
has added  
**19,918**  
items YTD to the  
catalog  
Up **4%** from 2024



The Children's Div.  
has distributed  
**2,210**  
RAR Kits YTD  
Up **46%** from 2024



The Outreach Dept.  
has provided  
**8337**  
items YTD  
Up **4%** from 2024



The Outreach Dept.  
has made  
**123**  
in-home visits YTD  
Down **18%** from 2024



The Outreach Dept.  
has made  
**75**  
facility visits YTD  
Down **3%** from 2024



## PATRON STORIES

*LIBRARY CONNECTION: A LIFELINE AT SALUTE TO SENIORS*

The Outreach Department brought the RPL GO! van to *Salute to Seniors*, an annual event at Ontario Beach Park sponsored by the Monroe County Office for the Aging. At the library's table, more than 300 visitors stopped by, and staff distributed 200 free books.

One visitor in particular stood out. She approached the table and shared, *"I just have to tell you that the library saved my sanity!"*

She explained that during the COVID lockdown, she lost her husband. Grieving and lonely, she hesitated to rejoin community life. Eventually, she ventured into her local library, where the kindness of the staff—and the companionship of books—helped her through those difficult days. She also discovered the library passport program and began visiting different libraries around the county. Whenever she felt anxious or low, she would get in the car and tell herself, *Okay, what's the next library on the list?*

Through this journey, she explored a wide range of collections and programs, staying engaged and active. Crafting classes became a favorite, and she said she now feels at ease attending programs at any library, having visited them all.

Later that day, she returned with handmade ladybug bookmarks and tears in her eyes. *"Seriously, you don't even know what it did for me,"* she said. *"The library saved me. It was so wonderful—thank you so much."*

*WHO'S THAT MAN? MEETING THE MAYOR AT GRACE UNITY FESTIVAL*

Families enjoyed picking up new books and tote bags at the Grace Unity Fellowship Church Youth Festival. When Mayor Evans spoke at the event, some children asked about him. At first, they thought he might be President Obama. After Children's Services Consultant Tonia Burton explained who he was and what a mayor does, the kids were eager to meet him. She introduced them, and the Mayor's first question was whether they had been reading over the summer. County Executive Bello also visited the library table and highlighted the library's solar charging tables.

## MCLS SERVICE HIGHLIGHTS

*TECH LINK*

Outreach librarian, Ron Freitag and technology center staff teamed up for tech outreach sessions at four different senior and residential facilities, including a new workshop on understanding AI.

## PRESENTATIONS

Maren Kyle spoke to the current cohort of the Pathstone Employment Focused Services Program about essential library services, with an emphasis on library collections and services that are of value to individuals who are job hunting.

## SHORT STORY DISCUSSION PROGRAM

Outreach librarians visit Lifespan senior day programs where they listen to a short story read by Levar Burton and then discuss it.

Lily Café: *Playing Nice with God's Bowling Ball* by N.K. Jemisin

Wolk Café: *No Man's Guns* by Elmore Leonard

## BOOK CLUB SUPPORT

Outreach librarians provided copies of book club titles in multiple formats to support book club programming at senior living facilities:

Valley Manor: *James* by Percival Everett

Ashley Woods: *Me Before You* by Jojo Moyes

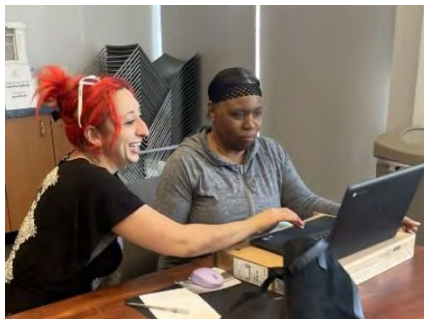
## COMMUNITY OUTREACH

August started strong with outreach for the first time to the Puerto Rican festival, followed by Alicia Gunther sharing telescopes and library knowledge at the RMSC Perseids Fest the very same day.

A total of 4 Coordinated Community Outreach events were staffed by the MCLS Office.

## SPECIAL INITIATIVES

### WIRED FOR OPPORTUNITY



In August, 38 students in Monroe County completed their computer training classes and received free Chromebooks.

#### WIRED FOR OPPORTUNITY PROGRAMS

Month	Classes	Attendance	Class Topics	
Jul	25	170	Intro to Computers	Library Resources
Aug	23	146	Applying for Benefits	Intro to Google
			Computer Catch-Up	Online Job Search
			Scams and Security	

#### CLASS FEEDBACK

A Wired for Opportunity student sent this complimentary email about interim instructors Josh and Trevor:

*"Both Josh and Trevor were excellent in speaking very clearly. Very slowly enough and enunciated so that my mind could take time grasping what they were saying. I learned well due to this basic thing. I find that most people these days speak so fast! Even in a class setting like the ones I've taken, the speakers fly through their sentences and I do not hear every word plus can't take time to understand.*

*Also, extremely professional. They were All about the work they were there to do- to teach as well as to help us. One taught while one went around to guide us in clicking on the correct button. I noticed that both of them were aware of someone needing their help. They took cues. One time I sighed, not even realizing, but Josh, who was at the podium, noticed it! He said "do you need help"? I was so impressed. Who does that? Who ever cares?*

*I am not a computer user. I've never had one. So, I'm totally illiterate. I feel good about having taken this class. I learned a good amount of basics to not be afraid of it. Josh gave great advice- he said "don't be afraid to play". This helped me!*

*Trevor has an excellent way of giving analogies. The analogies gave me a better understanding of exactly what he or Josh were trying to teach.*

*I recommend those 2 guys to continue doing what they do so well. I'd take a class from them anytime at all!!*

*I do hope I'd find some other class to take with them. I'd even be willing to pay for in-depth classes!"*

#### INTEGRATED LIBRARY SYSTEM (ILS) RFP DEVELOPMENT

Members of the ILS RFP team got a running start on their efforts to develop requirements for a system-wide RFP. After a productive brainstorming session, the group, which consists of library staff from across the County representing a varying array of functional expertise, started holding regular meetings. The plan at this point is to hold feedback sessions for the various stakeholder groups who will be impacted by any changes to the system we use, looking for suggestions on what to look for in an ILS that will enhance and improve library services. Several "Town Hall" style events are currently being planned to help gather information from library staff members working in all areas of library work and all locations in Monroe County. The next steps will involve gathering feedback from patrons and honing the input we receive into functional requirements to present to prospective vendors.

## STAFF HIGHLIGHTS

Jessica Post joined the MCLS office as a part-time Librarian I mid-month. Gunther has focused on immersive training on outreach and learning the ropes at Central Library. Once trained, Post will provide back-up to Central Library departments to cover unanticipated staff shortages.

## LIBRARY DIRECTOR'S CORNER: EMILY CLASPER

### *TRUSTEE CALL TO ACTION*

September is Library Card Signup Month! Encourage everyone you know to get a library card

#### **#LibraryCardSignUpMonth**

Follow [I Love Libraries](#) on social media and visit the ALA [Show Up For Our Libraries](#) page to learn how to take action to support Federal funding for libraries.

### *RECOMMENDED READING*

WUWF 88.1 FM: [Part of Florida's school book law ruled unconstitutional](#)

*The New York Times*: [Why Shop? In Maine, the Library of Things Has It All \(Almost\)](#)

ALA: [Books by Bots: Librarians grapple with AI-generated material in collections](#)

WAVE Media, Louisville, KY: [School cell phone ban creates surge in JCPS library visits](#)

### *IMPORTANT DATES*

**October 13**; Indigenous Peoples' Day (RPL closed)

**October 21, 6:00**; City Council meeting

**October 23**; Brain Games, Hyatt Regency

**October 24**; RPL Closed for Staff Day

### *UPCOMING LIBRARY PROGRAMMING*

[Find Upcoming Library Programming Here](#)

### *DIRECTOR'S UPDATES*

This month has been full of energy and connection across RPL and MCLS. We kicked things off with a series of joint orientation sessions for our new trustees, using this as an opportunity to unpack the unique (and sometimes confusing!) ways our City and County library systems work together. Our newest Board members showed patience, curiosity, and a real eagerness to learn. Even better, we had the chance to get to know one another better and discover the many talents they're bringing to the table to strengthen both of our Boards.

We also had plenty of moments in the spotlight, as local press covered some truly special milestones. Senator Samra Brouk celebrated the donation of a new lactation pod to the Lincoln Branch Library. At Sully Branch, we cheered for the very first graduating class of young pilots from the Aviation Station program. And thanks to Senator Jeremy Cooney's generous grant, we'll soon be upgrading public computers and security equipment at RPL branches across the city. Each event was a reminder of how deeply our libraries enrich the communities we serve and a chance to bring that message to a larger audience.



Meanwhile, behind the scenes, August was peak planning season for MCLS. It always feels like a “gear-up” month, preparing for the busy fall stretch ahead while our member libraries are buzzing with summer reading excitement. We pushed forward on planning for upcoming in-district visits with State legislators, kept construction grant applications moving, mapped out staff training sessions, started eyeing the County budget process, and gave our Integrated Library System RFP the strong launch it needs.

And of course, sprinkled among the meetings and planning, August offered plenty of those unexpected, joyful library moments. I got to laugh my way through a Drag Queen Story Time with local author and performer Mrs. Kasha Davis, make a quick trip over to the Buffalo & Erie County Central Library, brush up on hands-only CPR, toast Taylor Swift and Travis Kelce’s engagement with a group of enthusiastic teens, and even walk an RPD officer through downloading an audiobook on Libby. If there’s one thing I can say for certain about this field: working in libraries means never, ever being bored.

*~Emily*



## *DIRECTOR'S SITE VISITS*

### **August**

None

### **July**

Newman Riga

### **June**

Fairport

### **May**

Brighton Memorial Library

Mendon Public Library

Parma Public Library

Pittsford Community Library

Winton Branch Library

### **April**

Ogden Farmers' Library

Irondequoit Public Library

Phillis Wheatley Community Library

### **March**

Penfield Public Library

Henrietta Public Library

Rush Public Library

Sully Branch

Arnett Branch

Chili Public Library

### **February**

Charlotte Branch

Maplewood Community Library

### **January**

Frederick Douglass Comm. Library

Lyell Branch

Monroe Branch

## *MCLS OFFICE ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR'S UPDATE: JENNIFER SMATHERS*

Consultation with member library directors primarily involved the Construction Grant application process, with an August 15<sup>th</sup> deadline motivating the questions. Smathers and Gunther also handled questions about coordination of Star Parties in October, and further explored aspects of [Municipal Budget Votes for Library Funding in New York State](#). (Sometimes called 414 votes.)

The Integrated Library System Request for Proposal Team (ILS RFP Team) started work in earnest with an in-person brainstorming session that focused on identifying stakeholders and listing requirements from specific workflows to security needs of the next MCLS system. Next steps include holding townhalls for library staff, then reaching out to additional stakeholder groups for detailed input on what they want and need from a library system. The 18-member team includes a variety of library staff who specialize in distinct aspects of library work.

August 25th, Jim Byrnes (Pittsford Community Library) collaborated with Gunther and many other MCLS librarians on a [stunt for September's National Sign-Up for a Library Card month](#). Giant MCLS library card in-hand, Jim set out on a quest to check something out from each of MCLS' 31 libraries. The successful attempt garnered media attention from [City Magazine](#) while generating an energetic buzz on social media. Further posts about Byrnes' feat will be shared throughout September. Check out the wide variety of everything Jim borrowed that day via this [Pittsford Community Library Facebook post](#).

~Jennifer





### MCLS Board Committee Assignments 2025-26

STANDING COMMITTEES	DESCRIPTION FROM BYLAWS
<b>Executive Committee</b> Marjorie Shelly, Chair Amy Moffitt, VP Christopher Corcoran, Past President Gary Brandt Suzanne Stackman  Staff Liaison(s)– Emily Clasper	An Executive Committee of five members shall consist of the President, Vice-President, Past President if he or she is a current member of the board and two or three other trustees <b>elected</b> by the Board for a maximum of five members. The Executive Committee, in intervals between meetings of the Board, may transact such business of the Board as the Trustees may authorize, except to make removals from office (Education Law, Section 226).
<b>Nominating Committee</b> Peter Knapp, Chair Francesca Padilla Jamia Williams  Staff Liaison(s)– Emily Clasper	The Nominating Committee shall have three (3) members, all of whom shall be <b>elected</b> by the Board of Trustees at its September meeting. The committee shall present a slate of officers for the upcoming fiscal year at its June meeting.
<b>Finance Committee</b> Christopher Corcoran, Chair Suzanne Stockman Amy Moffitt  Staff Liaison(s)– Katy Hasselwander Emily Clasper Jennifer Smathers	The Finance Committee shall have three (3) members <b>appointed</b> by the President. The committee normally meets jointly with the RPL Finance Committee and monitors MCLS and Central Library Services budgets and monthly bill sheets. They also meet annually in February to review proposed Central Library Services budgets and in April-May to review the proposed MCLS budget. The committee may assist in the presentation of the recommended budget to the full Board and the County Legislature. They also monitor the status of invested private funds of the Central Library. Additional meetings may be held as needed to deal with fiscal issues throughout the year.
<b>Personnel Committee</b> Peter Knapp, Chair Mei Qi Francesca Padilla  Staff Liaison(s)– Emily Clasper Ana Suro	The Personnel Committee shall have three (3) members <b>appointed</b> by the President. The committee normally meets jointly with the RPL Personnel Committee. The Committee shall conduct an annual review of the Director which shall measure the Director’s performance against mutually agreed objectives and submit a written report to the Board of Trustees at its June meeting. The Committee may solicit and consider written input from trustees of the MCLS Board as well as Directors of member libraries.

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**Strategic Planning Committee**

Gary Brandt, Chair  
Kimberley Brown  
Francesca Padilla

Staff Liaison(s)– Emily Clasper

The Strategic Planning Committee shall have three (3) members **appointed** by the President. The committee meets annually in January with the MCLS Director and member library directors to determine strategic priorities derived from the MCLS Plan of Service for the upcoming year. They also discuss issues related to future services and recommend modifications to the Plan of Service as appropriate. The MCLS Plan of Service is revised every five years.

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**BOARD LIAISONS****Liaison to FFRPL Board**

Amy Moffitt

This position is **appointed** by the President and represents MCLS' interests by serving as a voting member of the Friends & Foundation of RPL Board of Trustees. The Foundation was established to raise private funds to support RPL and some MCLS projects and programs. The Foundation Bylaws specify that one seat on the Board will be reserved for one MCLS trustee. The Foundation Board meets quarterly.

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**Liaison to RPL Board**

Gary Brandt

A trustee from the Monroe County Library System Board of Trustees shall be **nominated by the President for appointment** by City Council to serve as a liaison and voting member of the Rochester Public Library Board. This liaison will represent MCLS interests and report on MCLS activities at each RPL Board meeting.

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**Liaison to RRLC Board**

Peter Knapp

A trustee from the MCLS Board shall be **appointed** by the President to serve as a liaison and voting member of the Rochester Regional Library Council Board. This liaison will represent MCLS interests and report to the MCLS Board on RRLC meetings.

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**AD HOC COMMITTEES****Advocacy and Public Relations**

Jamia Williams, Chair  
Mei Qi  
Francesca Padilla

Staff Liaison(s)– Jennifer Smathers

This committee consists of 3 members **appointed** by the President and works with the MCLS Director and Assistant Director on coordinated advocacy and PR efforts with legislators, member libraries, and the community at large. May coordinate or write editorials, speak to the County Legislature and City Council, and work with other trustees and systems on broader advocacy issues.

## MCLS Circulation

Town Libraries				
	Aug-25	Aug-24	+/-	%
Brighton	57,785	56,095	1,690	3.0%
Seymour	14,302	14,869	(567)	-3.8%
Chili	26,168	24,353	1,815	7.5%
East Rochester	4,599	4,260	339	8.0%
Fairport	66,956	68,556	(1,600)	-2.3%
Gates	21,524	24,970	(3,446)	-13.8%
Greece	57,156	57,686	(530)	-0.9%
Hamlin	4,850	5,623	(773)	-13.7%
Henrietta	47,612	49,304	(1,692)	-3.4%
Irondequoit	40,860	44,409	(3,549)	-8.0%
Mendon	11,050	11,618	(568)	-4.9%
Newman Riga	2,549	2,530	19	0.8%
Ogden	12,603	13,374	(771)	-5.8%
Parma	9,445	9,448	(3)	0.0%
Penfield	44,729	42,753	1,976	4.6%
Pittsford	56,661	55,934	727	1.3%
Rush	2,857	2,555	302	11.8%
Mumford	751	968	(217)	-22.4%
Scottsville	3,058	2,877	181	6.3%
Webster	45,139	48,553	(3,414)	-7.0%
<i>Towns Subtotal</i>	<i>530,654</i>	<i>540,735</i>	<i>(10,081)</i>	<i>-1.9%</i>
<i>RPL Subtotal</i>	<i>84,071</i>	<i>82,492</i>	<i>1,579</i>	<i>1.9%</i>
<b>MCLS Total</b>	<b>614,725</b>	<b>623,227</b>	<b>-8,502</b>	<b>-1.4%</b>