

Meeting Minutes of the Board of Trustees of the Baright Public Library  
Dated July 16, 2026 Baright Public Library

Attendees: Melanie Bloom (Trustee), Sharon Medina (Trustee), Edie Vaughan (Trustee), Angela Ritchey, (Trustee) Amanda Pena (Director). Absent Jim O'Donnell (Trustee).

- 1) **Call to order.** Meeting called to order by Melanie Bloom at 6:34 pm.
- 2) **Acknowledgment of the Open Meeting Law.** “This meeting is subject to the Nebraska Open Meetings Act.” Read by Melanie Bloom.
- 3) **Agenda Approval.** Angela Ritchey made a motion to approve the July agenda, seconded by Edie Vaughan. Motion carried with the following trustees voting aye: Melanie Bloom, Sharon Medina, Angela Ritchey, and Edie Vaughan.
- 4) **Approve minutes.** A Motion to approve the June minutes was made by Edie Vaughan, seconded by Angela Ritchey. Motion carried with the following trustees voting aye: Melanie Bloom, Sharon Medina, Edie Vaughan, and Angela Ritchey.
- 5) **Financial Report.** The board reviewed the financial report from June, 2026. There were no unusual expenses.
- 6) **Statistical Report.** The board reviewed and discussed the statistical report from June, 2026. Generally speaking, most categories were mixed. Overall, most numbers declined from the previous year, while cardholders increased. There are mixed numbers up and down from the previous year. Programs and Program Attendance is down.
- 7) **Activities Report on Strategic Plan.**  
Library Services
  1. *Provide educational and institutional support to the community for those lacking financial stability.*
    - a. Every Friday at 10:30 am we are providing DIY Creative Art Studio for children 5 to 11.
    - b. For teens, we provided two programs which were Ocean Sensory Bottles and Rock Jewelry Wrapping.
  2. *Assist an aging population with appropriate services and programs.*
    - a. For June's Brunch and Learn, a presentation from UNO Morrill Hall about fossils with food provided by Lemon Tree Cafe.
    - b. For Lunch and Learn, we had the Nebraska Bonsai Society come to discuss the art of bonsai with food provided by Lemon Tree Café.
    - c. We partnered with Lovely Brewery to provide an adult story time after hours. The Ralston community Theater case for their summer musical of Shrek, read popular monster stories for adult.

- d. On June 10, we partnered with Metro Community College to provide an hour-long class on how to pick the best option for a smart phone based on your needs. The program is geared towards seniors.

3. *Encourage a strong Ralston economy through promotion of Ralston as a place to live and do business.*

- a. From June 1 to June 15, the library gathered feedback through a community survey to help us shape our services and programs for the community. The survey was provided online and in paper form. Also, we had the survey translated in Spanish.
- b. The library partnered with Scooter's coffee on 72<sup>nd</sup> St on June 9 for their Day of Giving to help us raise \$190 for our summer reading program.
- c. The library partnered with Lovely Brewery to raise \$92 for our summer reading program.
- d. For the duration of the summer reading program, we have partnered with Lemon Tree Café to give bookmarks to patrons that if they bring them into the Lemon Tree, the library will receive 10% of the proceeds from the patron's meal.
- e. On June 9<sup>th</sup>, we partnered with the Creative Hinge District to have a community paint day for their Community Mosaic Project.
- f. On June 20<sup>th</sup>, we partnered with Lovely Brewery to provide a paint-along for adults.

8) **Technology:**

None

9) **Staff Development:**

Fernanda Martinez started in June as our new Bilingual Library Assistant.

10) **Building Maintenance Report:**

The large windows located higher up towards the ceiling have been replaced with new windows. Construction will start on all of the other windows in the fall.

11) **Foundation Reports:** The Foundation did not meet.

12) **Unfinished Business:** None

13) **New Business:** None

None

14) **Public Comments:** None

15) **Announcements:** The next board meeting will be on August 20th.

16) **Adjournment.** Edie Vaughan moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Sharon Medina. All in favor: Melanie Bloom, Sharon Medina, Edie Vaughan, Angela Ritchey. Meeting Adjourned at 8:05 pm.