

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

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

- 1) **Call to order.** Meeting called to order by Melanie Bloom at 6:31 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.** Jim O'Donnell made a motion to approve the March agenda, seconded by Edie Vaughan. Motion carried with the following trustees voting aye: Melanie Bloom, Jim O'Donnell, Sharon Medina, and Edie Vaughan.
- 4) **Approve minutes.** A Motion to approve the March minutes was deferred until the April 16 meeting.
- 5) **Financial Report.** The board reviewed the financial report from March, 2026. There were no unusual expenses.
- 6) **Statistical Report.** The board reviewed and discussed the statistical report from March, 2026. Generally speaking, most categories continued to show good increases. Overall, reference, teen, children's and computer lab sessions were up, and library visitors were up from the previous month. The categories “Programs” and “Programs Attendance” are lacking data in other years because of an adjustment in tracking, but month to month figures are available.
- 7) **Strategic Plan Report.**
Library Services
 1. *Provide educational and institutional support to the community for those lacking financial stability.*
 - a. We will be partnering with AARP to provide tax aide from February until April 14th, 2026
 2. *Assist an aging population with appropriate services and programs.*
 - a. For March's Brunch and Learn, a presentation from Ilaamen Pelshaw the artist behind the Ralston mural located off of 72nd and Main about her creative style and career, with food provided by Lemon Tree.
 3. *Encourage a strong Ralston economy through promotion of Ralston as a place to live and do business.*
 - a. For March's Lunch and Learn, a presentation from the Czech and Slovak Educational Center and Cultural Museum about the arrival of Czech people in Omaha and the surrounding area. Food was provided by the center.
- 8) **Technology:** None

9) **Staff Development:**

We have hired Tia Johnson as our part-time Library Assistant and Isabella Saklar as our Bilingual Library Assistant. The both started at the end of March.

10) **Building Maintenance Report:**

The City Council approved the bid from Papillion Windows and Sliding Doors to fix the windows in the library.

11) **Foundation Reports:**

The Foundation met on April 14.

12) **Unfinished Business:**

None

13) **New Business:**

Public Library Statistical Survey 2024-2025

14) **Public Comments.**

None.

15) **Announcements.**

The next board meeting will be on May 21.

16) **Adjournment.** Sharon Medina moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Edie Vaughan. All in favor: Melanie Bloom, Sharon Medina, Jim O'Donnell, Edie Vaughan. Meeting Adjourned at 7:40 pm.