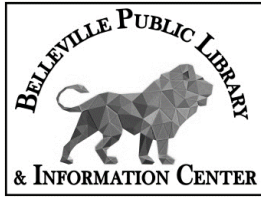


Belleville Public Library & Information Center

221 Washington Avenue
Belleville, NJ 07109
973-450-3434
Bellepl.org

Library Board of Trustees
Wednesday, May 13, 2026– 5 PM
The Teen Room at the Belleville Public Library & Information Center

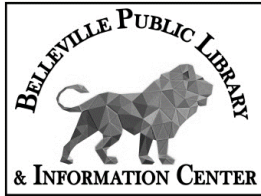
- Call to Order
- Sunshine Notice:
This meeting, published under Public Law 1975, Chapter 231, and commonly referred to as the "Open Public Meetings Act," is hereby notified that notice of this meeting has been given
- Roll Call
- Executive Session
- Approval of the minutes of April 14, 2026
- Communications:
 - Assembly Commendation
 - New Jersey Library Trustee Guide
- Committee Reports
 - Building and Grounds
 - Personnel: -
 - Budget:
- Interim Director's Report
- Old Business:
 - Nothing to report.
- New Business:
 - Children's Room Policy
- Resolutions:
 - 05-0001 Authorization to pay May 2026 bills
 - 05-0002 Authorization to have an employee move from part-time to a full-time position as a library assistant



Belleville Public Library & Information Center

221 Washington Avenue
Belleville, NJ 07109
973-450-3434
Bellepl.org

- 05-0003 Authorization to increase the hourly wage of a part-time employee.
- Public Comments
- Adjournment



Belleville Public Library & Information Center

221 Washington Avenue
Belleville, NJ 07109
973-450-3434
Bellepl.org

MINUTES OF THE LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Belleville Public Library and Information Center

April 14, 2026

Appointment: Rafael Taboclaon

The Belleville Public Library and Information Center Board of Trustees held its monthly meeting in the Teen Room on March 10, at 6:00 p.m. Present: Marleni Muñiz, Renato Peralta, Ralph Tunis, Alexandra Leon, Ana Mansilla, and Rafael Taboclaon. Mayor Michael Melham, Nelson Barrera, and Dr. Alfonso were absent. Frances Bacardi and Victoria Lucido, Attorney at Law, attended.

Marleni Muñiz opened the meeting and announced that the Open Public Meetings Act had been published.

MINUTES:

As presented, Marleni Muñiz moved to accept the minutes from March 10, 2026. Ralph Tunis made the motion, Alexandra Leon seconded, and the board approved it by voice vote.

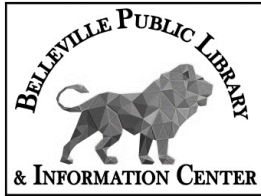
EXECUTIVE SESSION:

COMMUNICATIONS:

- Nothing to report.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- **Buildings and Grounds:**
Marleni Muniz convened a meeting of the Building and Grounds Committee on Academy Street with Mayor Melham, Brian Banda, Town Manager Tom Hertz, Town Engineer, and me to discuss the repairs and renovations needed for the street. The discussion focused primarily on the retaining wall, then on the patio. As the meeting drew to a close, it was determined that a landscape architect was needed to prepare the architectural plans. Mr. Hertz indicated that he has a list of qualified professionals and will share that information with the library.
- **Personnel:**
Nothing to report.
- **Budget:**
Nothing to report.



Belleville Public Library & Information Center

221 Washington Avenue
Belleville, NJ 07109
973-450-3434
Bellepl.org

Interim Director's Report

ESL classes commenced on April 13th and have already generated strong interest, with patrons already purchasing ESL materials. Due to popular demand, the sewing workshop with Ellen Brown will return this fall, and dates are being coordinated.

The Children's Department hosted a variety of seasonal and educational programs. In celebration of St. Patrick's Day, children created Lucky Charm bracelets. Additional programs included *Bendy Bookworms*, which combined yoga and story time, and *Storybook Storytime*, featuring stories with favorite characters. For the Easter season, children enjoyed crafting sock bunnies and participating in a Spanish-language story time.

Teen services also remained active, offering a college scholarship workshop to assist students seeking financial aid. This event was well attended, with 7 families participating.

AARP concluded its tax preparation services on April 13, 2026. In appreciation, they presented the library with a box of donuts from Montclair Bread Company.

In observance of National Library Week, taking place April 19 through April 25, 2026, and themed "Find Your Joy," the Friends of the Library will distribute a bottle of water and a cookie to each patron who checks out a book. On Friday, the library will host a neurodivergent flag raising at 12:00 noon. The Belleville School District will bring special needs students to participate in this celebration.

To conclude this evening, a presentation of *Frozen Jr.* will be held upstairs in the conservatory.

All recurring programs continued as scheduled.

NEW BUSINESS:

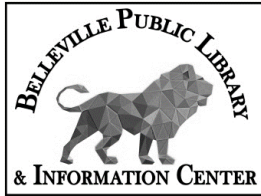
Nothing to report.

RESOLUTIONS:

- a) 04-0001: Authorization to pay April 2026 bills. Renato Peralta approved the motion, seconded by Alexandra Leon, and it passed unanimously by the Board.
- b) 04-0002: Authorization to have an employee move from part-time to a full-time position as a library assistant. Ralph Tunis approved the motion, seconded by Renato Peralta, and it passed unanimously by the Board.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

None



Belleville Public Library & Information Center

221 Washington Avenue
Belleville, NJ 07109
973-450-3434
Bellepl.org

ADJOURNMENT:

Renato Peralta motioned to adjourn, seconded by Marleni Muñiz, and approved by the Board's unanimous vote.

Prepared and Submitted by Frances Bacardi

NEXT BOARD MEETING SCHEDULED FOR Wednesday, May 13, at 5:00 PM