Utica Public Library Board of Trustees – October 19, 2026 Meeting

Director's Report

- 10/17-26/2026 - Midwest Family Visit (out of office)
- 10/27/26 - Met with Utica University students for their video project. They are going to film a 30 second PSA for the Annual Appeal and a 3 minute film about the library in general for promotional purposes. We talked about future projects as well.
- 10/28/26 - Taped a segment for the Joe Kelly Show which aired 11/1/26 (now available online)
- 10/28/26 - Attended the Dunham Public Library's 100th Anniversary event
- 10/29/26 - Dan Brockway's Trustee orientation with Diana and myself
- 11/1/26 - Attended the NAACP Oneida County Branch 2167 - Annual Freedom Fund Dinner 2026
- 11/2/26 - Attended 2026 Poverty Symposium featuring Joe Roberts. Amazing speaker!! Thank you, Evon and Darlene for booking him.
- 11/4/26 - Leader Mohawk Valley day at Tractor Supply
- 11/4-7/26 - NYLA Annual Conference in Saratoga Springs. Met Chris Saagas and we got a chance to hang out.
- 11/9/26 - Zoom with Marsha Wineburgh and Gabe. Very productive call.
- 11/10/26 - Oneida County Budget Hearing (library budgets up for vote)
- 11/10/26 - Clinton Symphony BOD meeting at Kirkland Library
- 11/11-12/26 - Working on annual appeal letter
- 11/12/26 - Governance Meeting
- 11/12/26 - OnPoint Annual Dinner as Darby and Kevin's guests
- 11/13/26 - Met with Jessica Pensabene from Elevaitt to discuss our current elevator and how we can retrofit it

- 11/16/26 - Filming content at UPL for Top Townie and event app, which the library is participating in for free
- 11/16/26 - Appointed to the CNY Arts Grant Review team. This will help in the long run when applying for grants with them.
- 11/18/26 - DAC Meeting

Youth Services - Thrills and Chills the first Saturday of October- families were able to watch Wallace and Gromit The Curse of the Were-Rabbit while enjoying sundaes donated from Stewarts.

Proctor High School brought close to 100 students over the course of 2 days- these students spent the morning at Munson then came to the library for a scavenger hunt based off of the artwork.

Outreach numbers for October were 795 children and teens (not counting adults), the number is higher than usual because there were two Career Days we tabled at.

Adult Programming - Monday, November 2 was Next Chapter Book Club's 15th anniversary. We are an affiliate of the international Next Chapter Book Club organization. UPL's chapter, founded by Heidi McManus, assistant director, in 2011, has read 30 books together. Next Chapter Book Club is a book club for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities. The goals of the club are for members to experience community inclusion, social connectedness, lifelong learning, and self-advocacy while reading.

Outreach - We interacted with 1,409 community members through 20 Community/Outreach Events (not including school visits) from January to September

Our partnership with Hannaford's Fight Hunger Bag Program raised $67.00 for the Community Fridge (these funds will be available in March)

Comings and goings: Hired - Allison Andrade, PT Library Assistant-Reference

Open positions: PT LA-Reference