



**(APPROVED 03/20/25)**  
**MINUTES OF THE**  
**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
**NEW CITY LIBRARY**  
February 20, 2025 (7 p.m.)  
(New City Library, 220 North Main St., New City, NY)

**PRESENT:** Patricia Voce, President  
Nicholas A. Longo, Jr., Vice-President  
Robert Axelrod, Treasurer  
James Ferguson, Secretary  
Joseph Ciardullo, Trustee  
Roxanne T. Perrone, Trustee  
Mindy Rader, Trustee  
Patricia Ranieri, Trustee  
Jeffrey Sasson, Trustee

**STAFF:** Marianne Gallagher, Library Director  
Kelly Corrado, Administrative Assistant

**ABSENT:** Shibu Abraham, Facilities and Finance Manager

**GUEST:** Jordan Sklar, Esq., Kaufman Dolowich LLC (*via Zoom*)

**I. INTRODUCTORY**

a. Meeting Called to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m.

The *Pledge of Allegiance* was recited.

**II. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Treasurer Axelrod reported that a legal matter will need to be discussed in an *Executive Session*.

- Upon motion made by Axelrod and duly seconded by Ciardullo, it was:

RESOLVED, *That the Board enter into an Executive Session to discuss a legal matter.*

The Resolution was passed by all those present (Ranieri, not present for the for vote as she arrived to the meeting at 7:04 p.m.). (RM#1-02/2025)

The Board entered into an *Executive Session* at 7:03 p.m.

Director Gallagher welcomed Attorney Jordan Sklar of the law firm of *Kaufman Dolowich*, who attended the meeting via videoconference to discuss a pending legal matter with the Board.

A lengthy discussion followed.

- Upon motion made by Ranieri and duly seconded by Rader, it was:

RESOLVED, *That the Board resume the Regular Meeting.*

The Resolution was passed unanimously. (RM#2-02/2025)

The Board resumed the *Regular Meeting* at 7:41 p.m.

### III. REVIEW OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Secretary Ferguson presented to the Board for acceptance the *Minutes* of the previous month's meeting.

- Upon motion made by Ferguson and duly seconded by Perrone, it was:

RESOLVED, *That the Board accept the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of January 16, 2025.*

The Resolution was passed unanimously. (RM#2-02/2025)

### IV. REPORTS

#### a. Personnel and Finance Committee (Axelrod, Chair):

##### i. Financial Report and Warrant:

Treasurer Axelrod reported that the Library's operating expenditures were \$408,728 and the capital expenditures were \$0.

Axelrod presented to the Board for approval last month's *Warrant*.

- Upon motion made by Axelrod and duly seconded by Voce, it was:

RESOLVED, *That the Board approve Warrant #7 in the amount of \$408,728.*

The Resolution was passed unanimously. (RM#3-02/2025)

ii. Chase Bank/PCSB Bank Signatories:

Treasurer Axelrod reported that signatories for the bank accounts at *Chase Bank* and *PCSB Bank* are in the process of being updated.

b. Building and Grounds Committee (Sasson, Chair):

Sasson reported that the *Committee* met last week via Zoom videoconference. Sasson reported on the following:

West Wall Drainage Project: The drainage project has a few minor items to be completed in the springtime.

Switchgear and Generator: Consultant Architect Donald Mac Donald will prepare *Requests for Proposals (RFPs)* for the switchgear replacement and the generator installation.

Window Project: Consultant Architect Donald Mac Donald will take an inventory of the windows in order to obtain a budget estimate for the replacement of the windows, which will be the project for the next grant cycle.

Entrance Stairway Center Railing: Sasson recommended that the Library install a center rail on the entrance stairs for safety purposes.

c. Policy and Planning Committee (Longo, Chair):

i. Strategic Plan:

Longo reported that the *Committee* met on February 5 to discuss *Strategic Plan* recommendations.

d. Legal Affairs Committee (Ranieri, Chair):

Ranieri had nothing to report.

e. President’s Report (Voce):

President Voce had nothing to report.

f. Director’s Report (Gallagher):

Director Gallagher referred to her written report and also reported on the following:

i. New York State Annual Report 2024:

Treasurer Axelrod reported that the *New York State Annual Report 2024* will be reviewed by the *Ramapo Catskill Library System (RCLS)* before submission to *New York State*. Director Gallagher presented it to the Board for acceptance.

- Upon motion made by Ferguson and duly seconded by Voce, it was:

*RESOLVED, that the Library operated under its plan of service in accordance with the provisions of Education Law and the Regulations of the Commissioner, and assures that the 2024 Annual Report was reviewed and accepted by the Board.*

The Resolution was passed unanimously. (RM#4-02/2025)

**IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None.

**V. NEW BUSINESS**

a. Appointment of Attorney (Voce):

President Voce deferred to Treasurer Axelrod, who reported that the *Personnel and Finance Committee* met to discuss a proposal received from a local attorney to provide legal services to the Library. After a lengthy discussion, the Board agreed to table the topic until the *Committee* can meet for further discussion.

b. Board Communications (Ferguson, Secretary):

Secretary Ferguson had nothing to report.

c. Paver Honoring Victor Berger:

Trustee Sasson suggested that the Board members contribute to purchase a paver honoring Victor Berger for his dedicated service to the Library and community as a trustee and as President of the Board. The Board members agreed.

**VI. PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

**VII. ADJOURNMENT**

- Upon motion made by Ferguson and duly seconded by Longo, it was:

RESOLVED, *that the Board adjourn the meeting.*

The Resolution was passed by all those present (Sasson and Ranieri, absent, due to their early departure at 8:18 p.m. and 8:38 p.m., respectively). (RM#5-02/2025)

Meeting was adjourned at 8:41 p.m.

Submitted by James Ferguson, Secretary  
Board of Trustees  
NEW CITY LIBRARY  
March 6, 2025

JF/kc