



**(APPROVED 08/19/21)**  
**MINUTES OF THE**  
**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
**NEW CITY LIBRARY**  
July 15, 2021  
(7 p.m.)

**PRESENT:** Victor Berger, President  
David Zuckerberg, Vice-President  
Denis O’Hanlon, Treasurer  
Robert Axelrod, Secretary

Lisa Coughlin, Trustee  
Phyllis Morena, Trustee  
Patricia Ranieri, Trustee  
Jeffrey Sasson, Trustee  
Patricia Voce, Trustee

**ABSENT:** Ralph Sabatini, Trustee Emeritus

**STAFF:** Marianne Gallagher, Director  
Shibu Abraham, Facilities & Finance Manager  
Kelly Corrado, Administrative Assistant

**GUESTS:** None

**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. PUBLIC COMMENT**

a. NCLSA Scholarships:

Each year the *New City Library Staff Association* awards scholarships to local high school students. *Staff Association President Karen Vetrano* announced that the following three \$500 scholarships were awarded this year:

- The *NCLSA Scholarship*
- The *Haques Memorial Scholarship*

- The *Anthony Feliciano Memorial Scholarship* (awarded in honor and in memory of *Trustee Anthony Feliciano*, who was an ardent supporter of the staff).

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

Secretary Axelrod presented to the Board for acceptance the proposed *Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of June 17, 2021*.

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

RESOLVED, *that the Board accept the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of June 17, 2021.*

The Resolution was passed unanimously. (RM#1-07/2021)

### IV. REPORTS

a. Personnel and Finance Committee (O’Hanlon, Chair):

i. Financial Report of June 30, 2021, and Warrant #12:

Treasurer O’Hanlon reported that the Library’s finances for the month were \$444,923.

O’Hanlon presented to the Board for approval the *Financial Report of June 17, 2021, and Warrant #12*.

- Upon motion made by O’Hanlon and duly seconded by Zuckerberg, it was:

RESOLVED, *that the Board approve Warrant #12 in the amount of \$444,923.*

The Resolution was passed unanimously. (RM#2-07/2021)

ii. Personnel:

O’Hanlon had nothing to report.

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

i. Redesign Project: Rockland Country Day School:

Sasson reported that the *Committee* met on July 12 to discuss the temporary location for the Library during the construction phase. Initially, the *Rockland Country Day School* had been considered a potential site, but after extensive examination, was determined not suitable for the short duration of stay anticipated.

Gallagher reported that she will research other options for a temporary location for the Library.

ii. Redesign Project: Design and Development Phase:

Gallagher reported that the *Design and Development Phase* is now complete. The *Construction Documents Phase* will begin shortly.

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

i. RCLS Plan of Service (2022-2026):

Morena reported that the *Ramapo Catskill Library System (RCLS)* prepared for its member libraries a *Plan of Service* covering the years 2022-2026. Morena presented it to the Board for approval.

- Upon motion made by Coughlin and duly seconded by Sasson, it was:

RESOLVED, that the Board approve the *Ramapo Catskill Library System Plan of Service (2022-2026)*.

The Resolution was passed unanimously. (RM#3-07/2021)

ii. Bylaws Amendment: Video Conferencing:

Morena proposed an amendment to the *Bylaws* to include video conferencing at meetings.

- Upon motion made by Sasson and duly seconded by Morena, it was:

RESOLVED, *that the Board amend the Bylaws to include video conferencing by adding Section 4: Video Conferencing to Article V of the Bylaws to read as follows:*

***Section 4. Video Conferencing***

*Remote participation is authorized for regular Board meetings subject to certain conditions and restrictions. The Annual Board meeting is excluded from remote participation, unless emergency conditions exist. Remote participation is subject to the Open Meetings Law, specifically including public notice of all locations and the continued ability throughout the meeting to see and hear all participants.*

The Resolution was passed unanimously. (RM#4-07/2021)

d. Legal Affairs Committee (Axelrod, Chair):

Axelrod had nothing to report.

e. Ad Hoc Committees:

i. Patio Paver Project Committee Report (Axelrod, Chair):

Axelrod reported that the latest purchased paver had been recently installed on the patio. The Library received notification from *Travis Monuments* that the company will be increasing its pricing for engraving beginning September 1. The *Committee* will meet to discuss adjusting the purchase price of the pavers in order to absorb the increase since the *Patio Paver Project* is a fundraiser for the Library.

f. President's Report (Berger):

President Berger had nothing to report.

g. Director's Report (Gallagher):

Gallagher referred to her written *Director's Report*. In addition, Director Gallagher reported on the following:

i. Rockland Community Foundation:

Director Gallagher reported that the fund established by the *Rockland Community Foundation* for the Library's fundraising purposes is now active.

ii. Redesign Project: Assemblyman Kenneth Zebrowski:

Director Gallagher reported that the *Ramapo Catskill Library System (RCLS)* has arranged for *Assemblyman Kenneth Zebrowski* to tour the Library and review the renovation plans on July 20.

iii. Golden Anniversary of the New City Library:

Director Gallagher reported that the Library celebrated its 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of its *Absolute Charter* on June 25. The *Community Relations Department* arranged special *Goodie Bags* to distribute to the first 50 patrons visiting the Library that day.

iv. Staff Promotion:

Director Gallagher reported that *Social Media Librarian Dana Munsch* was recently promoted to *Librarian II*.

v. Construction Grant Workshop:

Director Gallagher reported that *Finance Manager Shibu Abraham* will be attending the *RCLS Construction Grant Workshop* on July 29.

**V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

i. RCLS Free Direct Access Plan (2022-2026):

Morena reported that the *Ramapo Catskill Library System (RCLS)* prepared for its member libraries a *Free Direct Access Plan* covering the years 2022-2026, which was presented to the Board at the June meeting. At that time, the Board tabled the item until the *Policy and Planning Committee* could review it. Morena reported that the *Committee* met and recommends rejecting the plan. A discussion followed.

- Upon motion made by Morena and duly seconded by Zuckerberg, it was:

RESOLVED, *that the Board reject the Free Direct Access Plan (2022-2026) of the Ramapo Catskill Library System.*

The Resolution was passed unanimously. (RM#5-07/2021)

## **VII. NEW BUSINESS**

- a. Board Communications (Axelrod, Secretary):

Axelrod had nothing to report.

## **VII. ADJOURNMENT**

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

RESOLVED, *that the Board adjourn the meeting.*

The Resolution was passed unanimously. (RM#6-07/2021)

Meeting was adjourned at 7:38 p.m.

Submitted by Robert Axelrod, Secretary  
Board of Trustees  
NEW CITY LIBRARY  
July 21, 2021

RA/kc