



(APPROVED 09/17/20)
**MINUTES OF THE
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
NEW CITY LIBRARY**
August 20, 2020

PRESENT: Victor Berger, President
David Zuckerberg, Vice-President
Denis O’Hanlon, Treasurer (*via mobile*)
Robert Axelrod, Secretary
Edward Bertolino, Trustee
Phyllis Morena, Trustee
Patricia Ranieri, Trustee
Jeffrey Sasson, Trustee
Patricia Voce, Trustee

ABSENT: None

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

GUEST: Ralph Sabatini, Trustee-Emeritus

I. INTRODUCTORY

a. Meeting Called to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m.

The *Pledge of Allegiance* was recited.

II. 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 July 16, 2020*.

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

RESOLVED, *that the Board accept the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of July 16, 2020.*

The Resolution was passed by all those present (Sasson, not present for the vote due to his late arrival at 7:07 p.m.). (RM#1-08/2020)

III. REPORTS

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

i. Financial Report of July 31, 2020, and Warrant #1:

Treasurer O’Hanlon reported that a new fiscal year has begun and that the Library’s finances are in good shape and below budget.

O’Hanlon presented to the Board for approval the *Financial Report of July 31, 2020, and Warrant #1*.

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

RESOLVED, *that the Board approve Warrant #1 in the amount of \$373,786.*

The Resolution was passed unanimously (Sasson, now present). (RM#2-08/2020)

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

i. Redesign Project:

Sasson reported that the *Building and Grounds Committee* met with *Architect Consultant Donald MacDonald*, along with Director Gallagher and Facilities Manager Abraham, to discuss the video-conferenced interviews of the four architectural firms. MacDonald presented to the *Committee* his evaluation of each firm’s proposal. The *Committee* then narrowed down its choice to two firms—*Lothrop Associates* and *VMDO Architects*—which will be presented to the Board for its final choice.

Sasson further reported that he and Director Gallagher had toured a nearby library renovated by *Lothrop Associates* for an on-site view of the project. Axelrod suggested that the entire Board should be included in the decision of which architectural firm to hire for the *Redesign Project* and that the entire Board should interview the two firms at *Special Meetings of the Board* before making a final decision. Director Gallagher will make the arrangements.

Secretary Axelrod requested that Gallagher have each firm vetted for possible issues.

Berger suggested that the Board work towards reaching a final decision by the next Board meeting (September 17). A discussion followed.

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

Morena had nothing to report.

d. Legal Affairs Committee (Axelrod, Chair):

Secretary Axelrod consulted with the Library's counsel regarding a *Conflict of Interest* with Trustee Bertolino, who is a member of the *Building and Grounds Committee*, as well as a member of the *Town Planning Board*, for when the Library submits its proposal to the *Town Planning Board* for the *Redesign Project*. Bertolino stated that he would recuse himself from the *Town Planning Board* when it reviews and votes on the Library's submission.

e. Nominating Committee (Sasson, Chair):

Sasson presented to the Board for approval the updated *Application for Trustee of the Board for the Trustee Election 2020*.

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

RESOLVED, that the Board approve the *Application for Trustee of the Board for the Trustee Election 2020*.

The Resolution was passed unanimously. (RM#3-08/2020)

Copies of the *Application* are available at the Library and on the website. The deadline to submit an *Application* is 4:45 p.m. on October 1.

f. President's Report (Berger):

President Berger had nothing to report.

g. Director (Gallagher):

Director Gallagher referred to her written report. In addition, Gallagher stated that the Library is considering options to permit reservations at the Library for patrons needing study time.

IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a. Memorial Pavers for the late Anthony Feliciano, Former Trustee:

Secretary Axelrod reported that the Board members have agreed to personally purchase a paver honoring Feliciano’s memory and his dedicated service to the Library. The Board agreed that the suggested inscription to read as follows:

IN MEMORY OF FRIEND
ANTHONY FELICIANO
LIBRARY TRUSTEE
2012-2017
IN APPRECIATION OF
HIS SERVICE

Director Gallagher reported that the staff collectively agreed to contribute to the purchase of an additional paver in Feliciano’s memory, as well.

V. NEW BUSINESS

a. Board Communications (Axelrod, Chair):

Secretary Axelrod had nothing to report.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comments were offered.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

- Upon motion made by Axelrod and duly seconded by Bertolino, it was: RESOLVED, *that the Board adjourn the meeting.*

The Resolution was passed unanimously. (RM#4-08/2020)

Meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:10 p.m.

Submitted by Robert Axelrod, Secretary
Board of Trustees
NEW CITY LIBRARY
August 27, 2020

RA/kc