



(APPROVED 12/17/20)
MINUTES OF THE
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
NEW CITY LIBRARY
November 19, 2020
(Via Zoom Video Conferencing)

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

Edward Bertolino, Trustee
Phyllis Morena, Trustee
Patricia Ranieri, Trustee
Patricia Voce, Trustee

ABSENT: Jeffrey Sasson, Trustee

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 7:02 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 October 15, 2020*.

- 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 October 15, 2020.*

The Resolution was passed by all those present (Sasson, absent; Bertolino absent for the vote due to his late arrival to the meeting). (RM#1-11/2020)

III. REPORTS

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

i. Financial Report of October 31, 2020, and Warrant #4:

Treasurer O’Hanlon reported that the Library’s finances this month are in good shape.

O’Hanlon presented to the Board for approval the *Financial Report of October 31, 2020, and Warrant #4*.

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

RESOLVED, *that the Board approve Warrant #4 in the amount of \$300,275. The Resolution was passed by all those present (Sasson, absent; Bertolino now present for the vote). (RM#2-11/2020)*

ii. Transfer of Funds:

On October 19, 2020 (via email from *Finance Manager Abraham*), the Board had agreed to the temporary transfer of \$300,000 from the *PCSB Capital Account* into the *Chase Invoice Account* in order to cover Library expenses until the tax check arrived from the *Clarkstown Central School District*. Treasurer O’Hanlon reported that the tax check has now been received.

O’Hanlon presented to the Board for ratification the temporary transfer of funds from the *PCSB Capital Account* into the *Chase Invoice Account* and for approval of the return transfer of funds from the *Chase Invoice Account* to the *PCSB Capital Account*.

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

RESOLVED, *that the Board ratify the temporary transfer of \$300,000 from the PCSB Capital Account into the Chase Invoice Account and that the Board approve of the return transfer of funds from the Chase Invoice Account to the PCSB Capital Account.*

The Resolution was passed by all those present (Sasson, absent). (RM#3-11/2020)

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

i. Redesign Project:

Due to Sasson’s absence, Director Gallagher reported that the *Committee* met to discuss the proposed contract. The *Committee* is continuing negotiations.

President Berger stated that it may be considered that the construction be done in a single phase, which may be optimum. Axelrod commented that if the construction was done in a single phase, alternate ways of operating would need to be considered. Bertolino inquired how the Library would be able to operate on a scaled-down version. Director Gallagher stated that new materials and high-demand materials would be made available—not all library materials.

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

i. Resume Fines:

Morena reported that the Library will resume fines beginning January 4, 2021, on new materials, equipment, and video games in an effort to expedite the return of outstanding library materials.

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

RESOLVED, *that the Board approve the Library to resume fines beginning January 4, 2021, on new materials, equipment, and video games.*

The Resolution was passed by all those present (Sasson, absent). (RM#4-11/2020)

ii. Strategic Plan:

Morena reported that a draft for the *Strategic Plan* may be available for the December Board meeting.

d. Legal Affairs Committee (Axelrod, Chair):

Axelrod had nothing to report.

e. Nominating Committee (Sasson, Chair):

Due to Sasson's absence, Director Gallagher reported that the *Candidate Statements* of the four candidates running for election will be available to the public at the Library and on the Library's website tomorrow (November 20).

Absentee Ballots will also be available at the *Administration Office* on November 20.

The *Trustee Election* will be held on Wednesday, December 9, from 9 a.m.-9 p.m.

f. Negotiating Committee (Sasson, Chair):

Due to Sasson's absence, Axelrod reported that the *Negotiating Committee* met with *VMDO Architects* and *Consigli Construction Company* to review the proposed contract and to discuss hard and soft estimates. The contract will be reviewed by the Library's legal counsel.

g. President's Report (Berger):

President Berger had nothing to report.

h. Director's Report (Gallagher):

Director Gallagher referred to her written report. In addition, Gallagher also reported on the following:

i. Yellow Zone:

Gallagher reported that several nearby libraries continue to remain closed and/or offer *Curbside Service*. Because of this, the *New City Library* has experienced increased foot traffic. The situation will be monitored closely as it develops.

IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a. FY2022 Budget Hearing:

Director Gallagher reported that the *FY2022 Budget Hearing* that was supposed to be held on Tuesday, November 24, has been rescheduled to Tuesday, December 1, at 7 p.m., via video conferencing hosted by the *West Nyack Library*.

V. NEW BUSINESS

a. Board Communications (Axelrod, Chair):

Secretary Axelrod had nothing to report.

b. One Town, One Book:

Secretary Axelrod commended *Adult Programmer Veronica Reynolds* on a job well done regarding the recent online group book discussion for the *One Town, One Book* program, which featured the book, “*How to Be an Antiracist*” by *Ibram X. Kendi*. Director Gallagher thanked Axelrod for his comments and also commended Reynolds. Axelrod suggested that the Library should remain neutral regarding controversial topics in the future.

Gallagher offered a brief explanation of the *One Town, One Book* annual programming.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comments were offered.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

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

RESOLVED, *that the Board adjourn the meeting.*

The Resolution was passed by all those present (Sasson, absent). (RM#5-11/2020)

Meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

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

RA/kc