

The Nyack Library
Board of Trustees
Draft Minutes of the Regular Meeting
December 8, 2014

Present:

E. Michael Growney, President
Mark Hussey, Vice President
Stephen Beck, Treasurer
Christopher Bresnan
Peter Danish
Kevin Doyle
Mary Anne Evangelist
Karen Roberts
Roger Seiler
Peter Vermazen

Absent:

*Debra Karten, Secretary

*=Excused

Staff: Jane Marino, Library Director
Sharon Alfano, Business Manager
Minerva Parker, Board Clerk

Visitors: see list

1. Call to Order:

Board President Mr. E. Michael Growney called the meeting to order at 7:35pm.

2. Agenda Approval:

Upon motion by Mr. Seiler and seconded by Dr. Evangelist, the agenda was unanimously accepted by the Board with changes to the order of the Finance & Personnel Committees reports to reflect that the Resolution to override the tax cap will be presented before the FY 2016 Operating Budget.

3. Presentation:

Daniel Kramer, Art Café, along with his architect Robert Silarski presented architectural drawings for renovations to the interior of the Stevenson House. Mr. Kramer is waiting for contractors to get back to him about costs on the project and will report back to the Board.

4. Review of the Minutes:

Upon motion by Mr. Seiler and seconded by Ms. Roberts, it was resolved to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of November 10, 2014.

5. Review of the Special Minutes:

Upon motion by Mr. Bresnan and seconded by Mr. Doyle, it was resolved to approve the Minutes of the Special Meeting November 19, 2014. Abstained votes: Dr. Hussey, Dr. Evangelist and Ms. Roberts.

6. Public Comments:

Mr. Growney suggested that the public hold their comments until a little later on the agenda at item #12, the second Public Comment section, so that the public in attendance may hear about the facts on the financial health of the library which information could pertain to the comments they want to make. Mr. Seiler objected to this since the approved revised agenda showed public comments could take place in the beginning of the meeting, item #6 and toward the end of the meeting, item #12.

7. Director's Report:

Mrs. Marino asked if there were any questions on the Director's Report, Personnel Actions, Department Reports or Incident Reports. Mr. Beck wanted clarification on the attendance count on the circulating statistics report and the discrepancies they showed over the past few months. Dr. Evangelist asked for clarity on an incident.

Upon motion by Mr. Seiler and seconded by Mr. Doyle, it was resolved to approve the personnel actions put forth in the Director's Report. The yes vote was unanimous.

8. Financial Reports:

Treasurer's Report:

Mr. Beck discussed the Treasurer's Report in full detail. Debt service on outstanding bonds in the amount of \$505,355 was paid on November 28. The Library has received the second payment from property tax revenues on November 17.

The Finance Committee met on November 17, 2014. The Finance Committee discussed the request to spend \$85,000 on replacement of the De Pew House porch and the cost to replace the porch in this budget year was not agreed to.

The Audit for 2014 is complete. The Auditor made recommendations on using multiple banks, depositing up to the FDIC insured amount in each. Another recommendation is to separate the Library and the rental properties funds.

Cash on hand as of November 30 is \$1,760,756; including the property tax monies received from the School District. The Operations & Budget Performance was discussed in detail. The bonds status was discussed and the Disbursement Report reviewed.

Upon motion by Dr. Evangelist and seconded by Ms. Roberts it was resolved that the Board accept the Treasurer's Report. The yes vote was unanimous.

Upon motion by Dr. Evangelist and seconded by Mr. Bresnan it was resolved to approve the Financial Statements and Disbursement Report. The yes vote was unanimous.

9. Committee Reports:

Personnel Committee:

Mr. Doyle explained that according to the by-laws the Library Director is to be evaluated by the Board President annually, and in addition last year the Personnel Committee has taken on the responsibility recommending the compensation to the Board.

Upon motion by Mr. Doyle and seconded by Dr. Hussey, it was resolved unanimously to increase the Director's compensation in the fiscal year beginning July 2015 by 4%. A roll call vote was taken; Mr. Danish, Mr. Vermazen, Dr. Evangelist, Mr. Beck, Mr. Growney, Dr. Hussey, Ms. Roberts, Mr. Bresnan, Mr. Seiler and Mr. Doyle all voted and the yes vote was unanimous.

Building and Property Committee:

Mr. Seiler gave an update on the Village of Nyack Land use Boards and the meetings with the Library over the past several months on changing the property lot lines. Preliminary approval was given by the Village of Nyack Planning Board and also appeared before the Zoning Board this past month to review the application for variances to change lot lines. The Zoning Board will meet January 2015 to follow up on the determination of this case, and then it will go back to the Village Planning Board.

Mr. Seiler opened discussion on the De Pew House porch, stating that he understood that the Building & Property Committee take on finding contractors to put out bids, on behalf of the Board. He stated he was promised from the Treasurer and Library Director there would be an allowance in the budget for the project. Mrs. Marino explained that the Auditor's use of the term "surplus money" does not mean extra cash on hand, but Library Operating money until the next property tax receipts are collected. Mr. Beck elaborated that there were never any promises on budgeting money for the De Pew porch, but it would be considered for the 2016 budget year. Mr. Vermazen, Building Committee member, remarked that he understood it to be an information gathering period, no promises on repair was made. This information would then be given to the Finance Committee for consideration to present for Board approval. Mr. Vermazen proceeded to hand out some information on his research and ideas to help secure the porch for a small amount of money until fully repaired.

Development Committee:

Dr. Evangelist acknowledged the most recent list of donations to the Nyack Library. Dr. Evangelist has received final proof from the printer on the Memorial Card fundraiser. The Annual Appeal letter is almost ready to be mailed to the community. This year's appeal will focus on Technology.

Upon motion by Dr. Evangelist and seconded by Ms. Roberts, it was resolved unanimously to accept the gifts with our thanks to the donors. Dr. Evangelist

Finance & Personnel Committees:

Mr. Growney wanted to start by addressing the motion to override the Tax Cap for the 2015-2016 Budget.

Whereas, the adoption of the 2015-2016 budget for The Nyack Library may require a tax levy increase that exceeds the tax cap imposed by state law as outlined in general Municipal Law Section 3-c adopted in 2011; and

Whereas, General Municipal Law Section 3-c expressly permits the Library Board to override the tax levy limit by a resolution approved by a vote of sixty percent of qualified board members; now therefore be it.

Resolved that the Board of Trustees of The Nyack Library voted and approved to exceed the tax levy limit for 2015-2016 budget by at least sixty percent of the Board of Trustees as required by state law on December 8, 2014 moved by Dr. Evangelist, seconded by Mr. Bresnan and unanimously approved by the Board.

The count: 10 of 10 Trustees present voted yes meeting the 60% approval requirement.

At this point Mr. Beck presented a power point on the Library's finances. After the power point the Board President allowed Public Comments.

Public Comments: Mr. Win Perry, Historical Society, De Pew House Tenant spoke in great detail on the history of the De Pew House, De Pew Family and the Village of Nyack. Mr. Perry mentioned that the De Pew House could

qualify for funds if it were designated a Historical site and a Historical Marker would then be placed on the property. More comments from the public on the importance of maintenance and repairs on the property.

Mr. Growney proposed that the Building & Property Committee develop a comprehensive list of all the properties to determine the estimated cost of each project, prioritize restoration list and work with the Finance Committee to determine a source of funding on this project and put together a written report for presentation at the June 2015 board meeting.

Motion by Dr. Evangelist and seconded by Mr. Bresnan for the Building & Property Committee to begin a restoration project priority list, for presentation at the June 2015 Board Meeting. The yes vote was unanimous.

Motion to adopt the Preliminary Budget for Fiscal Year Ending June 2016 and tax levy increase of 1.55% equal to \$44,326 moved by Dr. Evangelist, seconded by Ms. Roberts, and the majority vote was yes, with one opposed.

Nominating Committee:

Dr. Evangelist filling in for Ms. Karten, Nominating Committee Chair announced the Nominating Committee recommendations for Board Trustees 2015:

Peter Danish for three year term; Mary Anne Evangelist for three year term; Karen Roberts for three year term; Chris Bresnan filling an unexpired term ending 2017; Mark Hussey declined the nomination for a three year term; Tracie McLee for a three year term to fill seat vacated by Mark Hussey.

Motion by Mr. Seiler that the list of candidates recommended by the Nominating Committee for Trustee in 2015 be accepted by the Board, seconded by Mr. Vermazen, the yes vote was unanimous.

Long Range Planning Committee:

Dr. Hussey received input from the staff on the Long Range Policy Draft and revisions have been made to include those changes. A review of changes was discussed with the four broad goals of the committee.

Motion by Dr. Hussey to accept the four goal areas for the Long Range Plan Policy seconded by Dr. Evangelist, the yes vote was unanimous.

10. Old Business:

Mr. Seiler discussed the past years budgets for the Nyack Library, compared to other libraries in the area. Mr. Growney and the Board of Trustees thanked Dr. Hussey for his service to the Nyack Library.

11. New Business:

Mr. Growney requested that Board members consider making financial contributions to the Library during the year-end Annual Appeal each year no matter the amount.

12. Public Comments:

None

13. Adjournment:

Upon motion by Dr. Evangelist and seconded by Ms. Roberts, it was resolved to adjourn the meeting at 10:30 pm. The yes vote was unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,
Minerva Parker
Board Clerk

APPROVED