

**The Nyack Library**  
**Minutes of the Regular**  
**Board of Trustees Meeting**  
**Monday, December 9, 2019**

**Present:**

E. Michael Growney, **President**  
Ellyse Okin Berg, **Vice President**  
Debra Karten, **Secretary**  
Tamara Jhashi  
Michael Penn  
Roger Seiler  
Bebb Wheeler Stone  
Cora Sarjeant Wilder

**Absent:**

\*Brian Murrell, **Treasurer** (phone in)  
Peter Danish  
\*Valerie Williams-Sanchez

\*=Excused

**Staff:** Angela Strong, Library Director  
Sharon Alfano, Business Manager

**Visitor:**

***Call to Order:***

The Board President Mr. Growney called the Regular Monthly Meeting to order at 7:35 p.m.

***Agenda Approval:***

**Upon motion** by Mr. Seiler, seconded by Ms. Berg, it was resolved to approve the proposed agenda. The yes votes were unanimous, 8-0.

***Committee Reports:***

***Nominating Committee:***

Ms. Karten reported that the Committee interviewed Valerie Williams-Sanchez to fill the open position on the Board with a term expiring January 2020. Ms. Williams-Sanchez served on the Board 2013-2014, until she moved away. Ms. Williams-Sanchez has now moved back in town and is interested in serving on the Board again. Ms. Williams-Sanchez spoke a little about herself, to the Board.

**Upon motion** by Ms. Karten, seconded by Mr. Seiler the Board unanimously approved the appointment of Valerie Williams-Sanchez to fill the open position on the Board, with a term expiring January 2020. The yes votes were unanimous, 8-0.

The Committee also recommended that the Board nominate Mr. Seiler, Dr. Stone, Mr. Penn and Ms. Williams-Sanchez to run for regular 3 year terms as Trustee in the Board elections to take place on January 13, 2020. All of them have agreed to do so.

***Review of the Minutes:***

**Upon motion** by Ms. Berg, seconded by Dr. Stone, it was resolved to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of October 14, 2019. There were 6 yes votes, Dr. Jhashi and Mr. Penn abstained.

**Upon motion** by Ms. Berg, seconded by Mr. Seiler, it was resolved to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of November 11, 2019. There were 6 yes votes, Dr. Wilder and Ms. Karten abstained.

***Public Comments:***

None.

***Director's Report:***

Mrs. Strong reviewed her report with the Board and added that the Library received partial payment from the property taxes in November. Mrs. Strong discussed the current job openings and the difficulty in finding someone to fill the Children's Librarian position. Mrs. Strong mentioned the up-tick in homeless patrons in the library. Dr. Wilder inquired about the Annual Donor Reception. The Board discussed how to improve the event, how to improve turnout.

**Upon motion** by Dr. Stone, seconded by Ms. Berg, the Personnel Actions were unanimously accepted. The yes vote 8-0.

**Upon motion** by Mr. Seiler, seconded by Ms. Karten, the Inventory report was unanimously accepted. The yes vote 8-0.

***Committee Reports:***

**Development Committee:**

**Upon motion** by Ms. Karten to accept the Gifts & Grants Report for November 2019, and seconded by Dr. Stone, the Board resolved to accept with appreciation \$1,970 in Designated support to the Annual Appeal 2020. The 2019 Annual Development Appeal total to date has brought in \$18,181 in donations. The 2020 Annual Development Appeal total to date has brought in \$2,520 in donations. The yes vote was unanimous 8-0.

***Financial Reports:***

***Treasurer's Report:***

The Library received on November 1 \$2,207,042 of the tax revenue and on November 18 an additional \$459,800 was received. The remaining balance of \$398,494 is expected in April 2020. On November 30 the Library had \$7,513,591 in long term debt with TD Bank for the 2017 tax-exempt bonds. For the first five months of FY 2020 the Library operated at an \$86,127 surplus. Through November the DePew House operated at a \$17,060 deficit. DePew is expected to experience a \$56 thousand deficit for the entire FY 2020.

**Upon motion** by Mr. Seiler and seconded by Ms. Berg, it was resolved that the Nyack Library Board of Trustees approve the following disbursements reported for November 2019 which have been reviewed by the President and/or the Vice President, Secretary and the Treasurer: General Fund Expenses of \$67,416.40, Rental Fund Expenses of \$1,212.19, Debt Fund Expenses for \$36,322.92, Line of Credit repayment of \$150,391.67 Payroll Disbursement for pay date November 8, 2019 for \$51,525.35, and Payroll Disbursement for pay date November 22, 2019 for \$54,984.92, for a total of \$361,853.45. The yes votes, 8-0.

**Upon motion** by Mr. Seiler, seconded by Ms. Berg, the Board unanimously approved the Treasurer's Report and Financial Statements, 8-0.

***Old Business:***

Mr. Seiler commented on Mrs. Strong's presentation handout on the Nyack Library Sustainability Initiatives and what she could add to show the cost effectiveness of the Geothermal System.

Ms. Berg announced the Friends of the Library are having a fund raiser at the Elmwood Playhouse, Wednesday, March 25, 2020, the play "Born Yesterday." Ms. Berg would like to see Trustees at the event.

***New Business:***

Mrs. Strong passed out the Nyack Library's Preliminary Budget FY 2021 for discussion and approval.

**Motion to override the Tax Cap for the 2020-2021 Budget:**

**Whereas**, the adoption of the 2020-2021 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 2020-2021 budget by at least sixty percent of the Board of Trustees as required by state law on December 9, 2019 moved by Mr. Seiler seconded by Mr. Growney and unanimously approved by the Board.

The count: 8 of 8 Trustees present voted yes meeting the 60% approval requirement.

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**Motion to Adopt the Budget and levy the tax:**

**Motion** to adopt the Preliminary Budget for Fiscal Year Ending 2021 and tax levy increase of 1.25%, equal to \$38,317 **moved** by Ms. Berg, seconded by Dr. Wilder and unanimously approved by the Board.

***Public Comments:***

None.

***Adjournment:***

**Upon motion** by Dr. Wilder, seconded by Dr. Stone, it was resolved to adjourn the meeting at 9:12 p.m. The yes vote was unanimous, 8-0.

Respectfully submitted,

*Minerva Parker*

Board Clerk