

The Nyack Library
Minutes of the Regular
Board of Trustees Meeting
Monday, December 14, 2020

Present:

E. Michael Growney, **President**
Ellyse Okin Berg, **Vice President**
Debra Karten, **Secretary**
Brian Murrell, **Treasurer**
Peter Danish
Tamara Jhashi
Michael Penn
Roger Seiler
Bebb Wheeler Stone
Valerie Williams-Sanchez

Absent:

*Cora Sarjeant Wilder

*=Excused

Staff:

Angela Strong, Library Director
Sharon Alfano, Business Manager
Minerva Parker, Board Clerk

Call to Order:

The Board President Mr. Growney called the Regular Monthly Meeting to order at 7:33 p.m., via Zoom.

Agenda Approval:

Upon motion by Mr. Seiler, seconded by Ms. Karten, it was resolved to approve the proposed agenda as amended, moving the Nominating Committee after the Financial Reports. The yes votes were unanimous, 10-0.

Review of the Minutes:

Upon motion by Ms. Berg, seconded by Ms. Karten, it was resolved to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of November 9, 2020, as amended. The change is to the motion for Executive Session to include the wording, *Personnel Matters discussed in Executive Session at the previous Board Meeting*. There were 9 yes votes, 1 abstention, Dr. Stone.

Public Comments:

None.

Director's Report:

Mrs. Strong began her report with Staff Recognitions during this challenging time for the Library. Start by thanking Terri Evans, Aldona Pilmanis and Tracy Dunstan for managing the many scheduling challenges; Minerva Parker and Tracy Dunstan for their assistance with the Annual Appeal; Anne Shaw for hiring new support staff; Sharon Alfano for managing the financial aspects, Fiscal Year Budget preparation and managing the DePew House & the Tenants. Welcome to the new staff Jonas, Gayle, Tania and Amanda for showing great enthusiasm in learning the work; Michelle Morales, Circulation, for noticing problems with the door bells and the phone system and informing Angela of this; Rosemary and Georgia for their work on the Winter Edition of the Bookend, Virtual Programming and Community Engagement; Technical Services-Mike, Aurora, Dan, Myra and Ralph for their "can-do" attitude, getting books processed; Jean Vital for his front door presence during Browse & Borrow; and all other Staff for providing the best service possible to the patrons.

Mrs. Strong discussed the Computer Resource Center staffing gaps and CRC services to the public; Trustee Election and the Voting process, and gave an update on the Annual Appeal Concert. There will be a Staff & Trustee Holiday Celebration on Zoom December 20, 2020.

Upon motion by Ms. Karten, seconded by Ms. Berg, the Personnel Actions were unanimously accepted. The yes vote 10-0.

Upon motion by Mr. Seiler, seconded by Dr. Jhashi, the Hardware Inventory Report was unanimously accepted. The yes vote 10-0.

Mrs. Strong discussed the Monthly Statistics with the Board.

Committee Reports:

Development Committee:

Upon motion by Mr. Danish to accept the Gifts & Grants Report for November 2020, and seconded by Ms. Berg, the Board resolved to accept with appreciation \$1,444.94 in Designated support to the Annual Appeal 2021. The 2021 Annual Development Appeal total to date has brought in \$5,977.28 in donations. The yes vote was unanimous 10-0.

Financial Reports:

Treasurer's Report:

Mr. Murrell reviewed the Treasurer's Report in detail with the Board. The available cash balances in library accounts on November 30 were \$2,847,385. On October 29, \$2,451,886 of tax revenue was received, on November 25, the second installment was received, \$279,329, in April 2021 we will receive the final installment, approximately \$372,438. At the end of November, \$7,249,830 was remaining in long term debt on the 2017 tax-exempt bond with TD Bank. Year to date FY 2021 the Library operated at a surplus \$127,909 and the DePew House operated at a \$7,513 surplus.

Upon motion by Mr. Murrell and seconded by Ms. Sanchez, it was resolved that the Nyack Library Board of Trustees approve the following disbursements reported for November 2020 which have been reviewed by the President and/or the Vice President, Secretary and the Treasurer: General Fund Expenses of \$52,892.74, Rental Fund Expenses of \$3,080.35, Debt Fund Expenses for \$36,322.90, Payroll Disbursement for pay date November 6, 2020 for \$53,498.85, Payroll Disbursement for pay date November 20, 2020 for \$53,010.12 for a total of \$196,804.96. The yes votes, 10-0.

Upon motion by Mr. Murrell, seconded by Mr. Seiler, the Board unanimously approved the Treasurer's Report and Financial Statements, 10-0.

Nominating Committee:

Ms. Karten reported that the Committee met on December 1, 2020 to interview Wayne Henry for the vacated seat of Dr. Cora Wilder, who has decided not to run for re-election in January 2021. Mr. Henry spoke with the Board and gave them a brief background on his experiences and that he looks forward to serving on the Library Board of Trustees.

Upon motion by Ms. Karten, seconded by Ms. Berg, the Board unanimously approved the nomination of Peter Danish, Ellyse Berg, and Brian Murrell to serve another 3 year term. The yes vote, 10-0.

Upon motion by Ms. Karten, seconded by Mr. Seiler, the Board unanimously approved the nomination of Wayne Henry to fill the seat vacated by Dr. Wilder. The yes vote, 10-0.

The Board would like to Thank Dr. Cora Wilder for her service on the Library Board of Trustees, from May 2017-December 2020.

Old Business:

The Board resumed discussions, from the last Board Meeting, on the 2021 Holidays & Closings Schedule. Juneteenth is now recognized as a national holiday and should it be added to the schedule. The Board discussed this in detail.

Upon motion by Mr. Murrell, seconded by Ms. Berg, the Board unanimously approved that Juneteenth Holiday be added to the Holidays & Closings Schedule as a day the library will be closed. The yes vote 10-1.

The Board discussed changing Columbus Day to Indigenous Peoples Day on the Holidays & Closings Schedule.

Upon motion by Mr. Seiler, seconded by Dr. Stone, the Board approved this change. The yes vote, 9-1, Mr. Growney opposed.

New Business:

The Board discussed the Proposed Budget FY 2022. Mrs. Strong stated the Finance Committee met and discussed anticipated changes. Mrs. Strong pointed out those changes and asked if there were any questions. The Library will not have a new tax levy this year, it will remain the same as last year, \$3,103,653. The Valley Cottage Library will not have a new tax levy this year, either.

Upon motion by Mr. Seiler, seconded by Mr. Murrell, the Board unanimously accepts the Proposed Budget FY 2022. The yes vote, 10-1.

Public Comments:

None.

Adjournment:

Upon motion by Mr. Seiler, seconded by Ms. Karten, the Board unanimously agreed to adjourn at 9:40 pm. The yes vote 10-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Minerva Parker

Board Clerk