

Nyack Library
Minutes of the Regular
Board of Trustees Meeting
Monday, November 18, 2024

Present:

Steven Cea, **President**
Tracy Dressner, **1st Vice President**
Jeremiah Conway, **2nd Vice President**
Brian Murrell, **Treasurer**
Daniel Wolff, **Secretary**
Tamara Jhashi
Leslie Kirsch
Moriah Olsen
Kara Sheridan **phone conference**

Absent:

Diane Christian
Melissa Sullivan

Staff: Eric McCarthy, Library Director
Minerva Parker, Board Clerk

Call to Order:

The Board President Mr. Cea called the Regular Monthly Meeting of November 18, 2024, to order at 7:00 p.m., in the Community Meeting Room.

Agenda Approval:

Upon motion by Ms. Dressner, seconded by Mr. Conway, it was resolved to approve the agenda. There were 8 yes votes.

Review of the Minutes:

Upon motion by Ms. Jhashi, seconded by Ms. Dressner, the Board approved the Minutes of the Regular Meeting, October 21, 2024. There were 7 yes votes, Ms. Kirsch abstained.

Upon motion by Mr. Conway, seconded by Ms. Dressner, the Board approved the Minutes of the Executive Session, October 21, 2024. There were 7 yes votes, Ms. Kirsch abstained.

Director's Report:

Mr. McCarthy reported Carlos Rosario, Librarian Trainee, has received his MLS and is now a Librarian. The search for the open Business Manager position has concluded. Mr. McCarthy gave an update on the Staff Training day in October. ALA President Emily Drabinski was a guest speaker, she discussed book banning. Nyack Mayor Joe Rand was also a guest speaker who spoke about Nyack initiatives. We also did the regular training of the Panic Buttons, Lockdown and Evacuation Procedures. Mr. McCarthy thanked the Managers for their work on this. Mr. McCarthy

spoke about the outreach Morgan Strand has been doing with Rockland County Youth Collaborative to promote services and programs.

Mr. Cea inquired about the overall reduction in participation. Mr. McCarthy will look into this. There was a recent migration to a new system.

Public Comments: (full Board Meeting comments may be heard here <https://soundcloud.com>)

None.

Committee Reports:

Executive Committee:

No Report.

Development & Public Relations Committee:

Ms. Olsen thanked everyone involved with the Donor Reception it was a good turnout.

Upon motion by Ms. Olsen, to accept and gratefully acknowledge the Gifts & Grants for October 2024, seconded by Mr. Wolff, the Board resolved to accept with appreciation \$2,100 in designated support to the Annual Appeal. The 2024 Annual Development Appeal total to date has brought in \$36,499 in donations. Thank you to those who generously donated. There were 8 yes votes.

Ms. Olsen reported the Committee would like to send out a reminder about Giving Tuesday and she reported there would be an insert in the Newsletter to the residents.

Nominating Committee:

Ms. Dressner reported the information for the Trustee Vote is going up on the website. There are three seats terms expiring in February 2025.

Policy Development & Long-Range Planning Committee:

Upon motion by Ms. Dressner, seconded by Ms. Kirsch, the Board approved the revised revised Youth Services Policy. The yes vote 8-0.

Upon motion by Ms. Dressner, seconded by Mr. Conway, the Board approved the Suspension of Library Privileges Policy. The yes vote 8-0.

Long Range Planning Committee:

Ms. Jhashi reported for the Committee. The LRP spreadsheet was emailed to the Board. The Committee had a very efficient meeting last week. Ms. Jhashi reviewed the spreadsheet in detail with the Board.

Personnel Committee:

Upon motion by Ms. Dressner to approve the appointment of Carlos Rosario to the position of Children's Librarian, seconded by Ms. Jhashi, the Board unanimously approved this appointment. The yes vote 8-0.

Upon motion by Ms. Dressner to approve the appointment of Esther Schwartz to the position of Business Manager, seconded by Ms. Kirsch, the Board unanimously approved this appointment. The yes vote 8-0.

Building & Property Committee:

Mr. Wolff reported for the Committee. The roof repair is complete, waiting for the vendor to have a final walk-through to check the work. In the process of getting new heating equipment, the old system is not working.

Audit Committee:

Ms. Kirsch reported that the Committee did not meet, and the Auditor's are working on the report.

DePew House ad-hoc Committee:

The report will be discussed in Executive Session.

Friends of the Nyack Library Liaison Committee:

Ms. Olsen reported for the Committee. The book sale made over \$5,600, thank you to all the volunteers. The Library tours will resume in 2025.

Ms. Dressner would like to publicly thank Denise Leslie for all her work, and all the volunteers managing the book sale.

Finance Committee:

Mr. Murrell reported for the Committee. The Committee reviewed the Treasurer's Report and the Draft Budget. Mr. McCarthy reviewed the FY 25-26 Draft Budget in detail with the Board.

Motion to approve the following resolution to potentially override the Tax Cap for the fiscal year 2025-2026:

Whereas, the adoption of the 2025-26 budget for 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 Nyack Library hereby votes to exceed the tax levy limit for 2025-26 budget by at least sixty percent of the Board of Trustees as required by state law on November 18, 2024 **moved by** Mr. Murrell, seconded by Ms. Dressner and unanimously approved by the Board. The yes vote 8-0.

Financial Reports:

Treasurer's Report:

Mr. Murrell reviewed the Treasurer's Report in detail with the Board. On October 31 available cash balances, \$2,967,919; \$1,300,000 invested in certificates of deposit; Current bonds, \$6,255,739 outstanding on the 2017 tax-exempt bond with TD Bank. The Library operated at a \$33,048 surplus, the DePew House operated at a (\$7,106) deficit, due to increased expenses from repairs.

Upon motion by Mr. Murrell, seconded by Ms. Kirsch, the Library Board unanimously accepted the Financial Statements as presented including the Summary of Key Balance Sheet Amounts as of October 31, 2024 and the October 2024 Performance Report. There were 8 yes votes.

Upon motion by Mr. Murrell and seconded by Mr. Wolff, it was resolved that the Nyack Library Board of Trustees approve the following disbursements reported for October 2024 which have been reviewed by the President and/or the Vice President, Secretary and the Treasurer; General Fund Expenses of \$115,608.95, Rental Fund Expenses of \$2,611.17, Debt Fund Expenses for \$36,322.82, Payroll Disbursement for pay date October 1, 2024 for \$59,386.32, Payroll Disbursement for pay date October 18, 2024 for \$57,870.97 and Payroll Disbursement for pay date October 30, 2024 for \$57,279.86 for a total of \$329,080.09. There were 8 yes votes.

Old Business:

None.

New Business:

Ms. Dressner would like the Board to think about a repository for internal board documents, and succession planning for board officers.

8:01 pm Upon Motion by Ms. Kirsch, seconded by Ms. Dressner, the Board adjourned into Executive Session to discuss matters involving contract negotiations. There were 8 yes votes.

9:05 pm Upon Motion by Mr. Conway, seconded by Mr. Wolff, the Board agreed to come out of Executive Session. There were 8 yes votes.

Adjournment:

Upon motion by Mr. Conway, seconded by Mr. Wolff, the Board agreed to adjourn at 9:05 pm. There were 8 yes votes.

Respectfully submitted,

Minerva Parker

Board Clerk