

Nyack Library
Minutes of the Regular
Board of Trustees Meeting
Tuesday, February 18, 2025

Present:

Steven Cea, **President**
Tracy Dressner, **1st Vice President**
Jeremiah Conway, **2nd Vice President**
Brian Murrell, **Treasurer**
Daniel Wolff, **Secretary**
Diane Christian
Leslie Kirsch
Conrad Lochner
Moriah Olsen
Kara Sheridan
Melissa Sullivan

Absent:

Staff: Eric McCarthy, Library Director
Esther Schwartz, Business Manager
Minerva Parker, Board Clerk

Call to Order:

The Board President Mr. Cea called the Regular Monthly Meeting of February 18, 2025, to order at 7:10 p.m., in the Community Meeting Room.

Agenda Approval:

Upon motion by Ms. Dressner, seconded by Ms. Kirsch, it was resolved to approve the agenda. There were 11 yes votes.

Special Presentation:

Mr. Cea recognized Tamara Jhashi for her years of service to the Nyack Library. Mr. Cea presented Ms. Jhashi with a print of an original watercolor of Nyack Library by Cynthia Reid, a local artist.

Review of the Minutes:

Upon motion by Mr. Wolff, seconded by Ms. Dressner, the Board approved the Minutes of the Regular Meeting, January 21, 2025. There were 10 yes votes and 1 abstention, by Mr. Lochner.

Director's Report:

Mr. McCarthy stated that Mr. Wolff would update the Board on facility matters during the Building & Property report. Mr. McCarthy had nothing further to add to his written report. Mr. McCarthy had a conversation with the lawyer about liability in being a sanctuary site for people who are being threatened with deportation.

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

None.

Committee Reports:

Executive Committee:

Mr. Cea reported the Committee met last month to follow-up on the Board discussion about the role and responsibility of the Presidency. Mr. Cea prepared a one-month log to start and will be making notes throughout the year on tasks associated with the Board President, in addition to what is already outlined in the bylaws. This information will help Board Members get a better understanding of the position, as the Board creates a succession plan. This will allow a better understanding of what each officer position requires.

Development & Public Relations Committee:

Upon motion by Ms. Olsen, to accept and gratefully acknowledge the Gifts & Grants for January 2025, seconded by Mr. Murrell, the Board resolved to accept with appreciation \$4,540 in designated support to the Annual Appeal, \$2,650 in memory of Tom Kennedy Sr. and \$2,216.88 RCLS Outreach Grant for the BIPOC Fair. The 2025 Annual Development Appeal total to date has brought in \$32,733 in donations. Thank you to those who generously donated. There were 11 yes votes.

Ms. Olsen and Mr. McCarthy will be working with the Committee to review the Donor Wall program. The company used to update the plaques on the wall is no longer in business.

Nominating Committee:

Ms. Christian reported the Committee met before the Trustee Vote and interviewed Mr. Lochner for the vacated board position.

Policy Development & Long-Range Planning Committee:

Ms. Dressner reported the committee did not meet. Staff are still working on the Collection Development Policy.

Long Range Planning Committee:

No report.

Personnel Committee:

No report.

Building & Property Committee:

Mr. Wolff would like to thank Jeff Flournoy for all the work he has been providing. There is a need for a new cleaning service. The Library has received several bids for the contract and a new vendor needs to be selected. Two new heating units will be delivered and installed in a few days.

Audit Committee:

Ms. Kirsch asked the Board to complete the Annual Conflict of Interest Statements. The Audit Committee will assess them for any conflicts by the next meeting.

DePew House ad-hoc Committee:

No report.

Friends of the Nyack Library Liaison Committee:

Ms. Olsen reported the Friends of the Nyack Library scheduled a meeting for Friday, February 21, at 1pm. She will have a report next month.

Finance Committee:

Mr. Murrell reported the Committee met on February 14 and discussed the Treasurer's Report and the DePew House.

Financial Reports:

Treasurer's Report:

Mr. Murrell reported on January 31 the available cash balance of \$246,956 in the checking account; \$3.3 million invested in certificates of deposit with varying terms, one-year or less with rates at 3.8%-4.4%; Mr. Murrell noted the slight change to the Balance Sheet layout. There is \$6,210,792 still outstanding in long term debt on the 2017 tax-exempt bond with TD Bank. Fiscal year-to-date the Library and DePew House operated at a \$131,207 surplus.

Upon motion by Mr. Murrell, seconded by Mr. Wolff, the Library Board unanimously accepted the Financial Statements as presented including the Summary of Key Balance Sheet Amounts as of January 31, 2025 and the January 2025 Performance Report. There were 11 yes votes.

Upon motion by Mr. Murrell and seconded by Mr. Conway, it was resolved that the Nyack Library Board of Trustees approve the following disbursements reported for January 2025 which have been reviewed by the President and/or the Vice President, Secretary and the Treasurer; General Fund Expenses of \$145,854.79, Rental Fund Expenses of \$10,654.95, Debt Fund Expenses for \$36,322.82, Payroll Disbursement for pay date January 10, 2025 for \$63,737.53, Payroll Disbursement for pay date January 24, 2025 for \$62,697.22 for a total of \$319,267.31. There were 11 yes votes.

Old Business:

Mr. Wolff would like to discuss a follow-up process to engage former candidates who were interested in joining the Board of Trustees when there are vacant seats.

New Business:

Mr. Cea passed out the Committee selection worksheet for the Board to select the committees they would like to serve on this year.

7:48 pm Upon motion by Ms. Kirsch, seconded by Mr. Conway the Board unanimously agreed to go into **Executive Session** to discuss negotiated contracts. The yes vote 11-0.

8:20 pm Upon motion by Ms. Dressner, seconded by Ms. Christian the Board unanimously agreed to come out of **Executive Session**. The yes vote 11-0.

Adjournment:

Upon motion by Ms. Dressner, seconded by Ms. Christian, the Board agreed to adjourn at 8:20 pm. There were 11 yes votes.

Respectfully submitted,

Minerva Parker

Board Clerk