

**GREAT NECK LIBRARY
MINUTES OF THE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
Tuesday, January 25, 2005 at 8:00 p.m.**

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Great Neck Library was held on Tuesday, January 25, 2005, in the Community Room of the Main Library, 159 Bayview Avenue, Great Neck, New York 11023. [Agenda attached]

The following Trustees were present constituting a quorum:

Linda Cohen – President
Joyce Klein – Secretary
William Morrill – Treasurer
Alice Nayer – Assistant Treasurer
Norman Rutta

Absent: David Kahn, Vice President
Bette Weidman – Assistant Treasurer

Also present: Arlene Nevens – Library Director
Laura Weir – Assistant Library Director
Neil Zitofsky – Business Manager

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 8:06 p.m. by President Linda Cohen.

MINUTES

Upon motion by Alice Nayer, seconded by Joyce Klein, and after discussion, it was,

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of the Great Neck Library accept the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of December 21, 2004 as amended.

A correction was made on page 3, second paragraph, line 1 under Director's Report. The word "three" was changed to "two."

VOTE: Yes – 5 (Cohen, Klein, Morrill, Nayer, Rutta)
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

TREASURER'S REPORT – PERSONNEL REPORT

During the month of December 2004, revenue received was \$1,076,801. Total expenses were \$1,090,993.

At the close of business, December 31, 2004, total operating fund holdings were \$869,789. Of these funds \$865,469 was on deposit at HSBC and The Bank of New York, and \$4,320 was on hand in Petty Cash funds at Main and the Branches. This compares to a December 31, 2003 balance of \$890,101.

Additionally, the balance of the Main Building and Special Services fund was \$1,178,992; the Automated Library fund was \$132,241; the Restricted Gift fund was \$45,898; the Branch and Special Services fund was \$132,060. These funds totaled \$1,489,191 on December 31, 2004. The December 31, 2003 total was \$1,578,250.

Upon motion by William Morrill, seconded by Joyce Klein, and after discussion, it was,

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of the Great Neck Library accept the January 25, 2005, Treasurer's Report with the Personnel Changes of December 16, 2004 through January 20, 2005.

Public Comments: Leonard Samansky

VOTE: Yes – 5 (Cohen, Klein, Morrill, Nayer, Rutta)
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Upon motion by William Morrill, seconded by Joyce Klein and after discussion, it was,

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of the Great Neck Library authorize the Treasurer to pay the persons named in the Check Register dated December 16, 2004 through January 20, 2005, Paid-Checks numbered 1129 through 1134 and 30895 through 30935, and To-Be-Paid checks numbered 30936 through 31074, the sums set against their respective names, amounting in the aggregate to \$729,982.71.

Public Comments: Ralene Adler, Stanley Dacher, Leonard Samansky

VOTE: Yes – 5 (Cohen, Klein, Morrill, Nayer, Rutta)

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT (attached)

As regards the Town Meeting, the date was tentatively set for February 24, 2005 at 7:00 p.m. at the Great Neck North High School. [See Town Meeting under *New Business* for more information.] This meeting will be rescheduled due to school vacation during that week. As soon as the new date has been set, it will be placed on the Library's website.

At the December meeting, the Director was asked to look into the possibility of holding the March 22nd Board meeting in the Community Room instead of the Multi-Purpose Room. She reported back that the Community Room has now become available. The meeting is now rescheduled for the Community Room.

Public Comments: Mel Goldberg, Leonard Samansky, Shirley Samansky, Stanley Dacher, Charlotte Schwartz, Karen Rubin, Robert Spitalnick, Ralene Adler, Joel Bloom, Robert Mendelson

OLD BUSINESS

Technology in Libraries – NY Times Article on Googles & Libraries
(articles attached)

The basis for this discussion was the December 14, 2004, article in the New York Times on the digitizing of some of the collections of Oxford, the University of Michigan and Stamford and the New York Public Library by Googles, as well as an article in the December 17, 2004 issue of the Wall Street Journal. What does this mean for libraries and how it would impact on the Great Neck Library? It would appear that less space would be required for the reference area according to these articles. The Reference Department has seen the impact of technology and the plans for the Main Building renovation/expansion project allotted less space for Reference in recognition of this fact. Although less space is needed for books, more space may be required for additional workstations for online researches.

Presently, the Library has wireless access in the building for those who bring their own laptops and this is still maintained in the renovation plans.

Public Comments: Brian Dobkin, Shirley Samansky, Leila Mattson, Leonard Samansky

NEW BUSINESS

Board Committee Appointments

President Cohen gave background information on all five committees and asked trustees to check their calendars and let Marjorie Malcolm know what days are good and which are not between now and the February Board meeting.

Branch

Joyce Klein
David Kahn
William Morrill
Linda Cohen

Finance

William Morrill
Alice Nayer
Bette Weidman
Linda Cohen

Main Building

Alice Nayer
William Morrill
Norman Rutta
Linda Cohen

Personnel

Joyce Klein
Alice Nayer
Bette Weidman
Linda Cohen

Policy and ByLaws

Bette Weidman
Norman Rutta
David Kahn
Linda Cohen

Policy Manual Change

Upon motion by William Morrill, seconded by Norman Rutta and after discussion, it was,

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of the Great Neck Library amend its Policy Manual, Section 400-40 as follows:

The Treasurer's check-signing plate at ~~ADP~~ **the Library's payroll service provider** is authorized to be used...
[strikethrough - deletion, boldface - addition]

VOTE: Yes – 5 (Cohen, Klein, Morrill, Nayer, Rutta)
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Town Meeting

Town Supervisor Jon Kaiman is planning to hold a "Town Meeting" as a forum to provide information for residents about the proposed Main Library Building Expansion/Renovation project. Mr. Kaiman's office will be sending out an invitation to district residents and to this effect he has asked the Library to prepare a Fact Sheet which will be included in the mailing.

The cost for this mailing will be assumed by the Town. The format of the meeting is yet to be determined.

Upon motion by William Morrill, seconded by Joyce Klein and after discussion, it was,

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of the Great Neck Library approved the attached "Fact Sheet" to be included with the Town invitation to a "Town Meeting."

After input from trustees and the public, changes were made to the draft fact sheet, and the original motion was amended.

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of the Great Neck Library approved the attached "Fact Sheet," as amended, to be included with the Town invitation to a "Town Meeting."

Public Comments: Karen Rubin, Joel Bloom, Brian Dobkin, Shirley Samansky, Leonard Samansky, Ralene Adler, Michael Zarin, Janis Collado

VOTE: Yes – 3 (Cohen, Klein, Morrill); No – 1 (Rutta); Abstention – 1 (Nayer)
MOTION CARRIED

Nassau Library System

The Nassau Library System (NLS), which is funded entirely by State Aid, is experiencing budgetary problems. The System has not received an increase since 1998 and only a 1.9% over 1990. The 2004 NYS budget included a 5% cut in aid for library systems and the 2005 budget maintains this cut. The system does not have sufficient fund balance to make up for this shortfall. As a result, member libraries are being asked to help by allocating funds to NLS. Discussion of this ensued and the Director was asked to get more information on this situation. There will be an informational meeting for Trustees, which will be open to the public, on Monday, January 31, 2005 at 7:30 p.m. at Nassau Library System. Trustees who need more information were encouraged to attend. Further discussion will take place at a subsequent meeting of the Great Neck Library Board of Trustees, and a vote will be taken at the March meeting.

Public Comments: Michael Zarin, Joel Bloom, Ralene Adler

CORRESPONDENCE (attached)

Ralene Adler spoke to her letter of December 28, 2004. Murray Wallach, William Wrigg, Samuel E. Friedman, Naomi Penner and Stanley Romaine were not present to speak to their letters.

OPEN TIME

Speaking: Janis Collado, Michael Zarin

ADJOURNMENT

Alice Nayer moved that the meeting be adjourned at 11:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce Klein
Secretary