

**GREAT NECK LIBRARY
MINUTES OF THE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
JUNE 17, 2014 AT 8:00 P.M.**

A regular meeting of the Great Neck Library Board of Trustees was held on Tuesday, June 17, 2014, preceded by an Executive Session, in the Multi-Purpose Room of the Great Neck Library, 159 Bayview Avenue, Great Neck, NY 11023. [Agenda attached]

The following Trustees were present constituting a quorum:

Marietta DiCamillo – President
Francine Ferrante Krupski – Vice President
Josie Pizer – Treasurer
Joel Marcus – Assistant Treasurer
Michael Fuller – Assistant Treasurer [left at 9:27 p.m.]
Janet Nina Esagoff

Absent with Prior Notice: Varda Solomon – Secretary

Also present: Laura Weir – Interim Director
Christine Johnson – Interim Assistant Director
Neil Zitofsky – Business Manager
Noah Nadelson – Financial Advisor [left at 8:40 p.m.]

EXECUTIVE SESSION

On a motion by Josie Pizer and seconded by Francine Ferrante Krupski, the Board went into Executive Session at 7:15 p.m. to discuss matters related to personnel and bonds for the financing of the Main Library renovation project. The Board came out of Executive Session at 8:20 p.m. on a motion by Josie Pizer, seconded by Michael Fuller.

CALL TO ORDER

President DiCamillo called the public meeting to order at 8:25 p.m.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING SECRETARY

Upon motion by Josie Pizer, seconded by Francine Ferrante Krupski, and after discussion, it was,

RESOLVED, that the Great Neck Library Board of Trustees appoint Janet Nina Esagoff as temporary Secretary in the absence of Secretary Varda Solomon.

VOTE: Yes – 6 (DiCamillo, Ferrante Krupski, Fuller, Marcus, Nina Esagoff, Pizer)
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

BOND APPLICATION

BUSINESS & TOURISM DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (BTDC)

Mr. Nadelson stated that the Library, at the time of its application to the BTDC, had the option of either financing through the BTDC or the Dormitory Authority of the State of New York (DASNY). The decision was made then to go with the BTDC. However, the BTDC has yet to provide a definitive timeline for the closing of the bonds and the ongoing fees. In addition, the BTDC is inexperienced in the selling of bonds. This is a lengthy process and the Library cannot afford to sit back and wait for this to happen. For these reasons, the Board decided to withdraw its application to the BTDC.

Mr. Nadelson went on to explain that DASNY is the third largest issuer of bonds in the country and most association libraries use DASNY. The fees for DASNY are higher than those of the BTDC. However, DASNY has agreed to waive the fees on the title insurance which will save the Library a significant amount of money. They have also provided an estimated timeline and their schedules always hold true. Therefore, based on these criteria, the Board has decided to switch to DASNY with a timeline of closing the bonds towards the end of September 2014.

The interest rate will be determined at the time of the sale of the bonds and the Great Neck Library, being a part of the Great Neck School District which has AAA rating, will get a great reception from the market.

Upon motion by Michael Fuller, seconded by Josie Pizer, and after discussion, it was,

RESOLVED, that the Great Neck Library Board of Trustees revoke its application to the Town of North Hempstead Business and Tourism Development Corporation for the issuance of bonds in the amount of \$10.4 million for the renovation of the Great Neck Library main building, which was approved by the Great Neck Library Board of Trustees on April 29, 2014.

Public Comment: Karen Rubin

VOTE: Yes – 6 (DiCamillo, Ferrante Krupski, Fuller, Marcus, Nina Esagoff, Pizer)

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

DORMITORY AUTHORITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK (DASNY)

Upon motion by Janet Nina Esagoff, seconded by Michael Fuller, and after discussion, it was,

RESOLVED, that the Great Neck Library Board of Trustees authorize the submission of an application, which has been reviewed by the Library's Financial Advisor and the Library's Bond Counsel, to the Dormitory Authority of the State of New York (DASNY) for the issuance of bonds in the amount of \$10.4 million for the renovation of the Great Neck Library main building, located at 159 Bayview Avenue, Great Neck, NY 11023.

VOTE: Yes – 6 (DiCamillo, Ferrante Krupski, Fuller, Marcus, Nina Esagoff, Pizer)

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Mr. Nadelson was thanked for coming. He then left at 8:40 p.m.

MINUTES

Upon motion by Josie Pizer, seconded by Francine Ferrante Krupski, and after discussion, it was,

RESOLVED, that the Great Neck Library Board of Trustees approve the Minutes of the May 20, 2014 Board meeting, as presented.

VOTE: Yes – 6 (DiCamillo, Ferrante Krupski, Fuller, Marcus, Nina Esagoff, Pizer)
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

TREASURER'S REPORT

Upon motion by Josie Pizer, seconded by Michael Fuller, and after discussion, it was,

RESOLVED, that the Great Neck Library Board of Trustees accept the following financial reports which have been reviewed by the Treasurer:

- June 17, 2014, Treasurer's Report;
- Warrant dated May 10, 2014 through June 6, 2014, Paid Checks numbered 0032030 through 0032032, 0032049 through 0032052, 1274 and 48310 through 48331, and To-Be-Paid Checks numbered 48332 through 48404, the sums set against their respective names, amounting in the aggregate to \$255,912.28;
- Payroll Warrants for pay dates May 1, 2014, May 15, 2014 and May 29, 2014 which have been reviewed by the Treasurer, in the amounts of \$154,025.05, \$153,300.74 and \$149,742.67 respectively, for a total of \$457,068.46.

VOTE: Yes – 6 (DiCamillo, Ferrante Krupski, Fuller, Marcus, Nina Esagoff, Pizer)
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

PAYROLL CHANGES

Upon motion by Josie Pizer, seconded by Joel Marcus, and after discussion, it was,

RESOLVED, that the Great Neck Library Board of Trustees accept the Payroll Changes of May 10, 2014 through June 6, 2014 as presented, and which have been reviewed by the Finance Committee.

VOTE: Yes – 6 (DiCamillo, Ferrante Krupski, Fuller, Marcus, Nina Esagoff, Pizer)
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

REPORTS

Branch Committee

Trustee Fuller reported that there was a positive feedback from the public and staff on the improvements at the Parkville Branch. Shelving at the Lakeville Branch was rearranged to allow for more space, and the weeding is wrapping up at a nice pace.

Building Advisory Committee (BAC)

President DiCamillo noted that the committee will be meeting on June 25th at 7:00 p.m. at the Main Library. The plans are moving ahead and the programs are developing nicely.

OUTREACH COMMITTEE

Trustee Pizer reported that the committee is currently working on newsletter number five.

RELOCATION COMMITTEE

Trustee Ferrante Krupski stated that the committee met on June 2nd at the Lakeville Branch to look at the reconfiguration of the branch and the large space in the basement to be used for storage during the closure of the main building. She also reported that the bids from the professional movers are due back by July 1st. The next Relocation meeting will be July 30th at the Parkville Branch Library.

FUNDRAISING

President DiCamillo reported that the committee met last week and will be meeting again on Monday, June 23rd to put together a mailing list for a fundraising cocktail party in September, and to work on the mission statement.

Grants

Ms. Weir reported that she asked Calgi and KG&D Architects to provide estimates for the replacement of the mezzanine windows and the two estimates were quite different. She will be asking Calgi to recommend an estimator to provide a more accurate estimate. NLS will be holding workshops on construction grants in July.

Ms. Johnson reported that a letter was received from the Greentree Foundation thanking Levels for its application for a “Good Neighborhood” grant but regrettably Levels was not selected but was encouraged to apply for future grants.

Director Search Committee

Trustee Ferrante Krupski reported that the committee met on May 27th and the consensus was to postpone the search due to the closing of the main building and the relocation until at the end of the winter/beginning of spring 2015. At that time everything will be in place and the Board can then decide how to go about the search for a Library Director.

Long Range Planning Committee

Trustee Nina Esagoff reported that once things have settled down, she will schedule a committee meeting.

Policy & Bylaws Committee

Trustee Marcus stated that the committee will meet soon.

Staff Reports

Staff reports were included in the Board Packets and there were no questions or comments from the Trustees regarding the reports.

Interim Assistant Director's Report

Text of written report below:

Weeding

In May, 8,940 items were discarded. To date in June, we have discarded an additional 2,396 items. This brings our current total for 2014 to nearly 40,000 items. I am still working on delegating the monthly weeding report to another staff member. So, although I had hoped to include the complete weeding reports with this month's Board report, I regret to advise that they have not yet been compiled. I will do my best to have the reports completed in time for the July meeting. Officially, the weeding project has ended. However, at both Parkville and Lakeville, staff is doing a final review of their collections. Here at Main, Reference Staff is working on the Biographies, and other special collections, including, Vocational, the Paperback Collections, the Foreign Language Collections, and the on-going weeding of the Reference Collection. Station is continuing its work on the Adult Fiction collections.

Lakeville Branch

Charles Wohlgenuth and Jose Rodriguez with the support of the Branch Head, Ruth Klement, and the rest of the Lakeville Staff have done a wonderful job re-configuring the branch at the suggestion of Mrs. Ralene Adler. One shelving unit has been removed and stored in the basement. Three shelving units have been turned parallel to the walls, and the fourth unit remains perpendicular, but has been moved back to create one concentrated public seating area. The open space currently contains the four existing cloverleaf tables and chairs providing seating for 16 patrons. Our plan is to have the movers move this furniture to the Lakeville basement and bring over tables and chairs from Main's quiet study room to accommodate an additional four patrons. There are currently seven public computer terminals, the plan is to remove the adjacent six feet of shelving and add two more workstations for the renovation year.

Charlie did a wonderful job moving the electrical outlets from the shelving that was relocated to the existing wall shelving. This provides a full row of outlets for patrons using personal or library-owned laptops. Patrons and staff have remarked on how the reconfiguration has actually increased the effectiveness of the lighting, as well.

Still to be done:

- (1) Install a security mirror in the back left corner for better sightlines for the newly created nook.
- (2) Install door on the now exposed shelving where the perpendicular shelf has been moved.
- (3) Install doors to cover the open shelving that is currently behind the Lakeville Circulation Desk for neater appearance.

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- (4) Possibly, install a locked cabinet in the public restroom to store housekeeping supplies.
 - (5) Install shelving in the existing closet in the back to allow for better organization.
 - (6) Install large shelving (perhaps from Main's garage?) in the Lakeville basement to the right of the entryway to store the buckets of holiday decorations, and eventually all of the system-wide holiday books in labelled bins, and any other accessible items for the duration of Main's closure.

Request for Proposals (RFP) for Movers

On May 15th, the Request for Proposals for moving quotes was mailed to six moving companies. All of the documents distributed to the movers are available on the Great Neck Library's website at <http://www.greatnecklibrary.org/libinfo/moversrfp.php>. Two of the movers, Scott Miller of National Library Relocations (the company that just did the Parkville move) and Kees Edelman of Clancy-Cullen Moving & Storage Co., Inc. attended the May 27th meeting conducted by me, Pam Levin and Wanda Lei. A third bidder, Gary Hall of American Interfile & Library Services, Inc. came in on June 5th. At the June 2nd Relocation meeting, it was decided to extend the bid return date from June 2nd to July 1st. The other three companies, all out-of-state, do not plan to bid.

Conference Reports

On May 6th, Laura Weir, Margery Chodosch, Irina Zaients, Pam Levin and I viewed a webinar sponsored by NYLA entitled "Yes, Virginia, You Can Market Databases." It is a well-known fact that many library users are not aware of what information is available to them through databases that cannot be found on the open internet. The webinar provided some easy ways to quickly market the resources so that we can provide better service and have more usage for these costly services. We had already been talking about having a featured "Database of the Month" on our website. So the timing of this webinar, could not have been better. From mid-May until Wednesday, we featured an image on our homepage. It linked users directly to the "Learning Express" database. As of Wednesday, we have changed the link to our Language databases – *Transparent Language/Byki* and *Mango Languages* (currently on-trial). Using an eye-catching link, Shuqian Zhang, our Web Designer and Grace Ferrara in Programming have done a great job working together to create these images. We will analyze our statistics to see if these website features are helping to drive more users to these valuable resources.

On May 8th, I attended the "first-ever" joint meeting of the Suffolk and Nassau County Computer and Technical Services groups. There were varying discussions about best options for wireless, how tech departments can better communicate with staff and patrons, and the importance of sharing vendor passwords in a secure manner – such as LastPass (<https://lastpass.com/>), for the worst case scenario of a staff member suddenly being absent due to emergency health issues, for example.

On May 12th, Irina Zaients and I attended a day-long session sponsored by the Metropolitan New York Library Council on *Negotiating and Working with Library Suppliers*. The presenters provided some good information on how to better manage and negotiate library contracts. Irina has already put the course to good use in her negotiations with the database providers.

Other News

Renovation Update #4 was released in May. The BAC Outreach Committee is currently working on the next update, scheduled for release in late June/early July.

On June 10th, Anna Kaplan, her assistant, Sabereh Samet, and their cameraman filmed a 30-minute segment of "Around Town" for the Town of North Hempstead television channel. Laura and I, along with Russ Davidson and Dominic Calgi, were interviewed for the program which is focused on the upcoming library renovations. We have asked to preview the final product before it airs and will link to it from our website, and if possible, stream it on the library channel, as well.

Staff is continuing to refine the numbers of materials, furnishings and other items that can either be sold, excessed or will need to be moved. It is still a moving target, pun intended, but all of the movers have assured us that this is normal for a library of this size organizing this type of move into temporary spaces.

On May 21st, Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Long Island picked up 73 boxes of discards. A Great Neck patron, Ilene Kindler, has been bringing some of our Large Type Discards to her aunt's nursing home. An interesting article entitled *Libraries' choice: Change or fade into oblivion* is available on the USATODAY website at <http://usat.ly/1hpU7rP>. I think it might be useful for the *Long Range Planning Committee*.

Interim Director's Report

Text of written report below:

Filming "Around the Town"

Town of North Hempstead Council Member Anna Kaplan arrived with her Legislative Aide Sabereh Samet on Tuesday morning June 10th to film a segment of "Around the Town", which is a television program that airs on the Town of North Hempstead Public Television channel that highlights businesses, programs and organizations that offer services and products of interest to residents of the Town of North Hempstead. Ms. Kaplan, a former Great Neck Library Trustee, approached the Library several weeks ago about highlighting the upcoming Main Library Renovation on local Public Television. In advance of the filming Ms. Samet guided us through the process, suggesting that we create a script of "talking points" we would like to address during the filming. Chris Johnson, Pam Levin, Deidre Goode, Jon Aubrey and I worked collaboratively to produce the script. The Library invited Russ Davidson of KG&D Architects, the architectural firm hired for the renovation project, and Dominic Calgi of Calgi Construction, the Library's Owner's Representative, to participate in the interview. We chose to film the interview in the Reading Room, overlooking the pond. The filming went well. The four of us sat in a semi-circle, with Anna off to the side facing us for the interview. After the interview, the cinematographer filmed Russ doing his design presentation. When the film is edited, Anna will give us a copy to preview. This is a wonderful public relations opportunity for the Great Neck Library to publicize the Renovation Project, get the word out about closing and direct the public to the three branch locations that will be available to the community while Main is closed. The film segment will run repeatedly on the Town of North Hempstead Public Television channel. The Library will also have access to the film, which we hope to link to our website and to show on the Great Neck Library's own Public Access Station.

Relocation of Artwork

Great Neck Library has been looking for a site that will store the Roman Vishniac Photograph Collection of pre-World War II portraits of Eastern European Jewish life while the Main Library is closed for renovation. Interim Reference Head Margery Chodosch was tasked with finding such a place and, indeed, did find a wonderful alternate location for the collection. Temple Beth-El is pleased to temporarily accept the collection. John Hirsch, Museum Curator for the Elsie K. Rudin Judaica Museum at Temple Beth-El, plans to exhibit the works beginning in August 2014, in time for viewing during the religious holidays in September. Mr. Hirsch is himself an artist and has exhibited his work at the Great Neck Library.

Relocation of Music Programs

Artists and dates have been confirmed for the March, May and October 2015 concerts to be held at Temple Emanuel.

OLD BUSINESS

Policy Manual Changes – 2nd Reading

(i) EXTENDING TERMS OF BOARD OFFICERS (200-30 II)

No trustee should be elected to the same office for more than two (2) consecutive years unless the Board determines that due to exigent circumstances it is in the best interest of the library to maintain certain officers in their respective positions. Should this be the case, the Board may re-

elect a trustee or trustees to the same office. The foregoing Board Policy to allow a third term will expire January 1, 2016.

Public Comment: Karen Rubin

(ii) UNCLAIMED ART WORK (900-60 a)

The Great Neck Library reserves the right to discard or dispose of any item left behind by an individual or group exhibiting artwork, collectibles, ephemera, or any other materials left behind by the exhibitor at the library. Any items not picked up in a timely fashion will be deemed abandoned. The library will attempt to contact exhibitors to retrieve their property in accordance with the Art/Photography Exhibitor Procedures. If the Library chooses to hold onto an unclaimed exhibition item, it will be clearly marked as “unclaimed”, with exhibit delivery dates, and a copy the exhibitor’s contact information attached to it.

This policy will be written into the Art/Photography Exhibitor Procedures that artists sign upon delivery of the artwork.

Legal opinion was obtained and incorporated in the above proposed policy. It was removed from the agenda and returned to the Policy Committee for review prior to a second reading.

(iii) VOTING SITE (1500-40 a)

Voting will take place at the Main Library and Parkville Branch (unless an alternate site proves necessary) on the day of the Annual Meeting from 10:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.

NLS Member Library Support Fee - 2015

Upon motion by Janet Nina Esagoff and seconded by Josie Pizer, and after discussion, it was,

RESOLVED, that the Great Neck Library Board of Trustees approve NLS request for Member Library Support for 2015 only, in the amount of \$47,297 to come from the NLS budget line in the operating budget.

VOTE: Yes – 6 (DiCamillo, Ferrante Krupski, Fuller, Marcus, Nina Esagoff, Pizer)
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

NEW BUSINESS

Donations

PATIO GARDEN

Upon motion by Joel Marcus and seconded by Francine Ferrante Krupski, and after discussion, it was,

RESOLVED, that the Great Neck Library Board of Trustees accept a combined donation of \$200 from Joel and Maxine Marcus, Varda Solomon, and Josie Pizer towards the Patio Garden Fund in honor of the upcoming marriage of Trustee Janet Nina Esagoff.

Trustee Nina Esagoff thanked her fellow trustees for their donation. President DiCamillo congratulated her on her upcoming nuptials.

VOTE: Yes – 6 (DiCamillo, Ferrante Krupski, Fuller, Marcus, Nina Esagoff, Pizer)
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

LEVELS PROGRAM

Upon motion by Francine Ferrante Krupski and seconded by Michael Fuller, and after discussion, it was,

RESOLVED, that the Great Neck Library Board of Trustees accept a donation of \$100 from Judy Weber towards Levels Program.

Public Comment: Lisa Currie – Over 100 Levels alumni attended the 40th Anniversary Picnic and expressed their desire to donate funds to upgrade Levels. She asked the Board for its assurance that the funds for the renovation of Levels will not come from the donations received, and that Levels staff will not be cut. She inquired how to go about making these donations.

President DiCamillo explained that the Board is working on staffing, including Levels, and every department will be treated in the same manner. The decision will be made after July 15th and the Board will provide the best service possible under the circumstances. When making donations, the checks are to be made out to the Great Neck Library with a notation on the check that it is for “Levels Fundraising”.

The Business Manager also added that the improvements to Levels will be funded from monies in the budget and not from donations received for the upgrade to Levels.

VOTE: Yes – 6 (DiCamillo, Ferrante Krupski, Fuller, Marcus, Nina Esagoff, Pizer)
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Budget Reallocation

Upon motion by Michael Fuller and seconded by Joel Marcus, and after discussion, it was,

RESOLVED, that the Great Neck Library Board of Trustees authorize the line-item changes to the 2014 Operating Budget as detailed in the 2014 Budget Reallocation Analysis, a copy of which is to be appended to the Minutes of this meeting, as well as to the copy of the 2014 Budget maintained on file for the public at Main and the branches.

VOTE: Yes – 6 (DiCamillo, Ferrante Krupski, Fuller, Marcus, Nina Esagoff, Pizer)
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Amendment to HIP Healthcare Plan – HIP VIP Medicare Advantage Plan

Upon motion by Francine Ferrante Krupski and seconded by Michael Fuller, and after discussion, it was,

RESOLVED, that the Great Neck Library Board of Trustees authorize the implementation and addition of the VIP Medicare Advantage Plan to our staff health insurance options with HIP/Emblem.Health.

Business Manager Zitofsky explained that staff had the option of enrolling in either the Empire Plan or HIP. Most staff chose Empire and one employee in the past, who has since retired, opted for HIP and is now approaching his 65th birthday and is eligible for Medicare. The Library did have this plan many years ago and no one used it and it was discontinued. He urged the Board to take advantage of this plan, which will save the Library \$3,150 annually for this one individual.

VOTE: Yes – 6 (DiCamillo, Ferrante Krupski, Fuller, Marcus, Nina Esagoff, Pizer)

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Excess Equipment

Upon motion by Janet Esagoff and seconded by Michael Fuller, and after discussion, it was,

RESOLVED, that the Great Neck Library Board of Trustees declare the items listed on the schedule from the Computer Department dated June 2014, excessed and authorize the Interim Director to dispose of same in an appropriate manner.

VOTE: Yes – 6 (DiCamillo, Ferrante Krupski, Fuller, Marcus, Nina Esagoff, Pizer)

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

CORRESPONDENCE (Attached to these Minutes)

KG&D Architects – a copy of their May 21, 2014 letter that was sent to the Town of North Hempstead Commissioner of Planning regarding alterations at the Great Neck Library.

Ralene Adler was not present to speak to her letters of May 27, 2014 and June 9, 2014.

OPEN TIME

Most of the attendees at this meeting came out in support of not cutting Levels staff and budget during the renovation.

Trustee Ferrante Krupski was asked to provide an update on the relocation. She stated that every department in the main building will be relocated, including programs, patron services and collection. As was brought out in the Branch Committee Report, there is now more room at the Lakeville Branch for patrons with the re-arranging of book shelves. Alternate locations have been found for Levels program at the Saddle Rock School on Mondays through Thursdays from 4:00 to 10:00 p.m. and on Friday and Saturday nights at the Station Branch. The program will not be exactly the same but it will go on and will include the three theater productions.

Speaking:

Jackie Schmmel – Inquired if the same services currently offered by Levels will be available during the relocation. She also asked that Levels receive some environmental attention because it is musty.

Emi Schefeld – Levels should not be treated in the same manner with regards to staff and budget cuts as other departments because Levels is different from the other departments. There is specialty in Levels programs and by taking away one staff member it will be detrimental to the program.

Sally Kooni – Levels goes beyond the scope of what a Library does, and he is concerned about the cutting of Levels Staff.

Rebecca Reiss – Went through Levels, worked in the Great Neck Library and is now a senior in college, and all are at the meeting to try to impress on the trustees that as they make these decisions to be mindful that Levels goes beyond what is expected and that is what makes Levels special.

Helene Moore – Her two kids have gone through Levels. Levels is very special, and people go there to find something that inspires them. Each individual brings something unique to what kids need. Levels cannot be treated like any other department.

Martin Marks – His two kids went through Levels and his daughter gained the experience as a stage manager from being at Levels. There are six people in Levels and if one is cut, it will be difficult to put on performances.

Karen Rubin – She saw Arsenic and Old Lace. Levels is extraordinary because everything you see in Levels is created by the youngsters and it gives them a level of responsibility. There is nothing special about Great Neck anymore except for Levels.

Dr. Mahesh Mansukhani – He has two kids who have been through Levels. Libraries are under siege and libraries have to redefine themselves by their involvement in the community. Keep in mind that kids who go through Levels become future supporters of libraries.

Rebecca Shaktman – Levels should be passed on as a tradition. Levels is preserving an art and should be covered in polyurethane and put in the Smithsonian.

Ethan Shaktman – His friend was going through a rough time and Levels saved him. It's a wonderful place to be! He loves Levels.

Spencer ? – He attends Levels and is a rising sophomore. He did research and found that America is the second most creative country in the world and that happens because we have places like Levels throughout the country. He urged the Board to let kids embrace the arts and their creativity and to understand what they want to do with their lives.

Sam Yallas – Levels provides the space that kids in Great Neck need. If you get rid of video classes for one year, it is like taking one strand out of a jacket that is holding the community together, and that community is ripped apart.

Naomi Reese – One of her kids graduated from Levels and the other is in Jr. Levels. She does not favor one department over the other. The decision should be made based on what each department needs.

Unidentified Lady – Levels kids are future supporters of libraries.

Susan ? – The library is a place but Levels is a world and should be understood in that context.

Unidentified Lady – She asked if persons who sent letters could address their letters. She was told that only a letter writer can speak to his/her letter. Since they were not present, the letters could not be discussed.

Trustee Fuller left at 9:27 p.m.

Lisa Currie – She thanked the Board and again asked for the Board’s reassurance that she can go ahead and solicit funds from Levels alumni, some of whom are very successful people.

ADJOURNMENT

President DiCamillo called for an adjournment. Josie Pizer so moved and Francine Ferrante Krupski seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet Nina Esagoff
Temporary Acting Secretary, Board of Trustees