

**GREAT NECK LIBRARY
MINUTES OF THE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
Tuesday, September 20, 2005 at 8:00 p.m.**

An Executive Session followed by the regular meeting of the Great Neck Library Board of Trustees was held on Tuesday, September 20, 2005, in the Community Room of the Great Neck Library, 159 Bayview Avenue, Great Neck, New York 11023. [Agenda attached]

The following Trustees were present constituting a quorum:

Linda Cohen – President
David Kahn – Vice President
Joyce Klein – Secretary
William Morrill – Treasurer
Alice Nayer – Assistant Treasurer
Bette Weidman – Assistant Treasurer
Norman Rutta

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

CALL TO ORDER

President Linda Cohen called the meeting to order at 6:40 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by William Morrill, seconded by Norman Rutta for the Board to go into Executive Session to discuss personnel matters. The Board came out of Executive Session at 8:10 p.m. on a motion by Joyce Klein, seconded by William Morrill. After a brief intermission, they reconvened to open session at 8:17 p.m.

MINUTES

Upon motion by Joyce Klein, seconded by David Kahn, and after discussion, it was,

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of the Great Neck Library approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of June 21, 2005, as amended.

Trustee Rutta indicated that on page 3 under the Director's Report [4th paragraph] dealing with email and library document, it should be added that "Expert advice was no longer necessary as the document had handwriting and signature."

VOTE: Yes – 7 (Cohen, Kahn, Klein, Morrill, Nayer, Rutta, Weidman)
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

TREASURER'S REPORT – PERSONNEL REPORT

During the month of June 2005, revenue received was \$1,067,883. Total expenses were \$580,782. During the month of July 2005, revenue received was \$30,938. Total expenses were \$577,987. During the month of August 2005, revenue received was \$36,048. Total expenses were \$586,415.

At the close of business, August 31, 2005, total operating fund holdings were \$1,968,115. These funds were on deposit at HSBC and The Bank of New York, and in Petty Cash funds at Main and the Branches. This compares to a August 31, 2004, balance of \$2,208,042.

Additionally, the balance of the Main Building and Special Services fund was \$1,197,583; the Automated Library fund was \$133,023; the Restricted Gift fund was \$46,246; the Branch and Special Services fund was \$133,013. These funds totaled \$1,509,866 on August 31, 2005. The August 31, 2004, total was \$1,589,701.

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 September 20, 2005, Treasurer's Report with the Personnel Changes of June 17, 2005, through September 16, 2005.

VOTE: Yes – 7 (Cohen, Kahn, Klein, Morrill, Nayer, Rutta, Weidman)
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, who has reviewed all checks and supporting documentation, to pay the persons named in the Check Register dated August 17, 2005 through September 16, 2005, Paid Checks numbered 0021269 through 0021273, 0021337 through 0021342, 0021406 through 0021409; 1151 through 1152 and 32144 through 32197 and To-Be-Paid checks numbered 32198 through 32304, the sums set against their respective names, amounting in the aggregate to \$304,093.22.

Public Comments: Unidentified gentleman

VOTE: Yes – 7 (Cohen, Kahn, Klein, Morrill, Nayer, Rutta, Weidman)
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

REPORTS

Director (report attached)

In addition, the screening of the film *Blood and Tears*, which deals with the Arab-Israeli conflict, will be followed by a panel discussion. Mr. Rosmarin has invited Mark Rosenblum from Queens College to be on the panel.

The biographical information for the candidates running for office in the Library election will be mailed by the end of this week.

Levels staged a benefit concert on Saturday night, raising \$760 for Hurricane Katrina victims. If Trustees wished, they could send their donation to Ethan Mann, Levels Director, to be added to the money raised at the concert, which will be sent to the Red Cross.

Public Comments: Stanley Romaine

Secretary

Secretary Klein reported on the slate of candidates for the October Library election as follows:

Board of Trustees

Four-year term ending January 2010 to fill the seat currently held by William Morrill	
Nominating Committee Endorsed Candidate	William Morrill
Independent Candidate	Marietta DiCamillo

Four-year term ending January 2010 to fill the seat currently held by Alice Nayer	
Nominating Committee Endorsed Candidate	(Candidacy withdrawn 7/25/05)
Independent Candidate	Marsha Vinson Rotman
Independent Candidate	Martin H. Sokol

Nominating Committee

Three-year term ending January 2009 to fill the seat currently held by Lawrence Gerzog	
Nominating Committee Endorsed Candidate	Edith Auguste
Independent Candidate	Brian Dobkin

Three-year term ending January 2009 to fill the seat currently held by Doris Master	
Nominating Committee Endorsed Candidate	(Candidacy withdrawn 8/5/05)
Independent Candidate	Bruce (Behrooz) Dilmanian
Independent Candidate	Deborah Rabizadeh

The agenda was re-arranged to discuss New Business to accommodate presentation by Cingular Wireless.

NEW BUSINESS

Insurance

Upon motion by Bette Weidman, seconded by Joyce Klein, and after discussion, it was,

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of the Great Neck Library renew its property/liability, automobile and umbrella insurance policies for the period September 1, 2005 through September 1, 2006 with Utica Insurance Companies, as presented by A.C. Edwards in their proposal dated September 1, 2005, for a total cost of \$53,809 to be charged to the Property/Liability Insurance line of the operating budget.

VOTE: Yes – 7 (Cohen, Kahn, Klein, Morrill, Nayer, Rutta, Weidman)

MOTION CARRIED.

Cell Tower

A representative from Cingular Wireless, in a preliminary presentation, pointed out that a majority of Cingular customers complained that their cell signal was bad in this geographical area. Cingular proposed the installation of a 70 foot flagpole tower with an 18 inch diameter which would be no more than 15 feet higher than the present flagpole on the Library's property. Cingular would be responsible for all Town approvals and costs associated with this project. The Library would benefit by receiving \$25,000 to \$30,000 from one carrier annually and much more if additional carriers were to come on board.

There were concerns about health issues from the radiation, the legality of a not for profit organization taking public assets with which entrusted and leasing out a part of its property for commercial use. More importantly, this would generate a lot of community controversy and would not be the right time as the Library is contemplating its renovation/expansion which is a bigger issue right now. Trustee Rutta handed out an article that spoke to both sides of the issue.

Pubic Comments: Mayor Leonard Samansky, Marsha Vinson Rotman, Michael Zarin,
Stanley Romaine

Upon motion by David Kahn, seconded by Linda Cohen, and after discussion, it was,

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of the Great Neck Library thank Cingular for its presentation and that more information in written form be submitted and that the Board will take this up at a future time.

VOTE: Yes – 5 (Cohen, Kahn, Klein, Morrill, Nayer, Weidman); Opposed – 1 (Rutta);
Abstention – 1 (Morrill)

MOTION CARRIED.

OLD BUSINESS

Visioning Report

A discussion of the report ensued. The report, it was felt, provided the basis to move forward with the Main Building Renovation/Expansion project. The Building Committee was charged with (1) interpreting what came out of the Visioning Report and report back to the Board after which the architects will be charged to come up with a revised plan based on the RFP which is still in place; (2) coming up with some statement, plan, outline, explanation of what should be done in terms of relocating the Library if it needed to be closed; (3) community involvement strategy in ongoing process of the project. The Building Committee should meet as soon as possible and report back to the full Board at its October meeting.

It was asked whether the \$279,000 spent thus far was wasted. It was brought out that much of the work done thus far would apply to whatever building plan that they come up with. There was a question on whether Frank Marino's contract would be terminated once he reached his plateau of \$60,000. Mr. Marino's contract extends throughout the life of the project with spread-out payments.

Public Comments: Ralene Adler, Karen Rubin, Marsha Vinson Rotman, Stanley Romaine,
Mayor Leonard Samansky, Michael Zarin, Robert Spitalnick, Rafe Leiber,
Lillian Hoffman

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by David Kahn, the meeting was adjourned at 10:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce Klein
Secretary