

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING
OF
THE GREAT NECK LIBRARY ASSOCIATION
Monday, January 25, 1993**

In the absence of the President, Arthur Lerner, Vice-President, called the meeting to order at 10 a.m., Monday, January 25, 1993 for the purpose of voting for members of the Board of Trustees and Nominating Committee. Jack Eber, Secretary, stated that he had a quorum of over 100 proxies. The regular portion of the meeting was recessed until 8:00 p.m. Tuesday, January 26, 1993.

Tuesday, January 26, 1993

The business part of the Annual Meeting of the Great Neck Library Association was held on **Tuesday, January 26, 1993**, at the offices of the Library on Bayview Avenue, Great Neck, N.Y. 11024

The following Trustees were present:

Jack Eber
Jo Ann Farley
Emanuel Kline
Muriel Kane
Arthur Lerner
Renee Zarin

Absent with Prior Notification: Elayne Bernstein & Dolly Relkin

Also present: Ken Weil, Library Director
Arlene Nevens, Assistant Director
Steven Limmer, Counsel

CALL TO ORDER

Attendance sheet attached

Arthur Lerner, Vice-President, reconvened the meeting at 8:00 p.m. and welcomed all present.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF ELECTION RESULTS

Arthur Lerner announced the results of the election.

Muriel Kane	1,077	Marianna Wohlegmuth	285
Richard Furhman	1,169	Unopposed	
Sandra O'Connor	1,022	Marietta DiCamillo	310
Dr. Alfred Udow	1,149	Unopposed	
Stephen Losi	1,197	Unopposed	
Dr. Thelma Stevens	1,161	Unopposed	

Richard Boyle moved to set aside the election results of Muriel Kane and Richard Furhman on the grounds that not-for-profit corporations, during the election process, must comply with N.Y. State election laws, regulations and procedures concerning voting places.

Mr. Lerner stated that Mr. Boyle was out of order and may submit his request in writing and the Board will seek legal opinion.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

In the absence of Elayne Bernstein, who is currently ill, Arthur Lerner presented his report.

Arthur Lerner welcomed all present and stated that Stephen Leacock, the famous Canadian author, in his book Nonsense Novels, wrote of the hero who, faced with a crisis, leaped on his horse and "Galopped off in all directions!" In reviewing the extremely varied activities of our library, one sees a comparison - we offer activities and services "in all directions."

He stated that in the past year the many book discussions, dramatic readings, art shows, slide presentations, and weekly film programs were delivered to jam-packed audiences.

Outstanding have been our music programs, under the co-chairmanship of Rita Nelson and Gabe Chieco, who were recently honored for having completed 15 years as co-chairs in preparing most delectable series of programs. Levels has been a magnet for young people, offering a most varied series of activities, including, but far from limited to, an SAT Preparation Course, courses in video production, ethnic cooking, environmental activism, and a multitude of workshops, as well as theater presentations and band concerts.

The Children's Department was also active, with songs, stories, book discussions, and summer-time pajama stories. The children also enjoyed programs by clowns, mimes and puppets, as well as picnics, a toddler treasure hunt and hands-on programs with animals.

Among the services offered were computers, typewriters, and a fax machine for public use. A class was offered on Introduction to the Macintosh and IBM computers.

In closing he stated that the Library Board meetings are public and open. Public attendance is welcome. In accord with its policy of doing its best to serve our public, suggestions for improvements are always welcome. We all share a joint interest in keeping our library what it currently is - one of the best, if not the best library for its size in the country, which, perhaps may mean in the world.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Arthur Lerner asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the Annual Meeting of January 28, 1992. Motion made by Renee Zarin, seconded by Emanuel Kline, to accept the minutes as presented. Motion Carried.

Mr. Boyle objected to page 3 - third paragraph. Mr. Lerner stated that the matter will be held over to the following meeting and that the Board needs documentation to amend the minutes.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Muriel Kane, Treasurer, stated that our financial goal is to budget Expenditures and Revenues as closely as possible. The \$395,638 balance in the 1992 Operating Budget is largely due to the N.Y. State Retirement Fund which reduced its monthly payment months after the library budget was adopted. In ending she stated our goals were substantially met.

Muriel Kane explained that we receive our tax receipts for the year from the school district during the first six months. What is not spent on a monthly basis is invested in Treasury Bills and then used over the remaining six months.

Arthur Lerner stated that prudence and safety is our first concern. Motion made by Emanuel Kline, seconded by Renee Zarin, and carried unanimously, it was,

RESOLVED, that the Treasurer's Report for the year ending December 31, 1992 be accepted.

At this time Richard Fuhrman, our newly elected Trustee, was asked to come forward and join the other Board members.

LIBRARY DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Attached to the minutes.

Renee Zarin thanked Ken Weil who has devoted countless hours in providing the community with the best library services possible and the two Assistant Directors, Arlene Nevens and Joe Latini, for a job well done.

OLD BUSINESS - None

NEW BUSINESS - None

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

George Wallach stated that he has lived in Great Neck for 43 years and when he came to vote he discovered that he was not eligible. He was then registered to vote but was not eligible to vote in this on-going election but he would be eligible to vote in the next election. He was very irate about this and complained that the Library's Newsletter was unclear and misleading. He said it would be a good idea for the next Newsletter to apologize for this failure to communicate clearly with the public. Arthur Lerner expressed his sympathy to Mr. Wallach and said steps will be taken to ensure a clear simple method of voting by all desirous of voting. Lerner pointed out that the present system was in accordance with our by-laws and regrets any inconvenience to the public.

Alma Jost, President of the North Lakeville Civic Association, stated that she had many phone calls from people who could not vote and were very upset.

Dr. Al Udow came in defense of the Board and its procedures. His wife could not vote, but Ken Weil checked in the computer and her name was found under her middle initial.

Jack Eber stated that the Board had made every effort to permit voting by all eligible voters in accordance with our present by-laws. To ensure a smooth and trustworthy voting process, numerous members of the Board and the Board's counsel were present at the start of voting, during the day and at the conclusion of the voting day.

Marianne Wohlgemuth questioned the membership requirements. She inquired further about the use of the Branches in a new voting procedure. She questioned the proxy procedure which she found flawed. Various members of the Board expressed their regrets for any inconvenience and confusion suffered by the community and promised to look further into this matter of eligibility and voting.

Ms. Wohlgemuth also questioned the \$700. to the League of Women Voters for the mailing of The Voter's Guide. This publication was not mailed to New Hyde Park residents. Mr. Weil replied he is working with the League of Women Voters and the Post Office to correct this in the future. Copies were available at the Parkville Branch for those patrons who wanted them.

Another New Hyde Park resident questioned the age of some of the collections at Parkville. She said her son was doing a paper on Morocco and discovered that the only books available to him were from 1965 and 1970. She was assured that attempts are always made to supply up-to-date material at Parkville and that Parkville receives a new encyclopedia each year. She also asked whether it was possible to open Parkville on some if not each Sunday. Muriel Kane thought the Sunday idea had some merit and promised to have the Board consider the matter.

Alma Jost indicated that there was an obvious need to provide more space to the users of the Parkville Library. Ken Weil observed that the building is owned by the Board of Education. They are aware of possible asbestos contamination if any of the walls were disturbed to effect an expansion of the present space allocated to the Parkville library.

Mr. Wallach asked if any Board member tried to read a newspaper at the Parkville Branch?

Mr. Boyle stated that the economy is still causing severe suffering to a large part of the Great Neck community. He said that the Board should be sensitive to the burden of people living on a fixed income. He questioned the salary increases to anyone earning more than \$60,000. He thought that some of the participants using Levels should be paying for the cost of that operation. He objects to the contribution made by the Library Board to the League of Women Voters for material mailed to the public at State and National elections.

A motion to adjourn was duly made and seconded. The unanimous vote to adjourn ended the public meeting at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jack Eber
Secretary