

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING
OF
THE GREAT NECK LIBRARY ASSOCIATION
Monday, January 24, 1994**

Elayne Bernstein, President, called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Monday, January 24, 1994, for the purpose of voting for members of the Board of Trustees and members of the Nominating Committee. Ms. Bernstein stated that she had a quorum of over 100 proxies. Voting was concluded at 10 p.m. The business portion of the meeting was recessed until 8:00 p.m. Tuesday, January 25, 1994.

Tuesday, January 25, 1994

The business part of the Annual Meeting of the Great Neck Library Association was held on Tuesday, January 25, 1994, at the offices of the Library on Bayview Avenue at Grist Mill Lane, Great Neck, N.Y. 11024.

The following Trustees were present constituting a quorum:

Elayne Bernstein
Jo Ann Farley
Richard Fuhrman
Muriel Kane
Arthur Lerner
Renee Zarin

Absent with prior notification: Jack Eber, Dolly Relkin

Also present: Ken Weil, Library Director
Arlene Nevens, Assistant Director
Joe Latini, Assistant Director
Steve Limmer, Counsel
Attendance Sheet attached.

CALL TO ORDER

President, Elayne Bernstein, reconvened the meeting at 8:05 p.m. and welcomed all present.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF ELECTION RESULTS - Muriel Kane, Acting Secretary announced the results of the election.

For Two Postions as Trustees - 4 year term

Jo Ann Farley	1,102
Elayne Bernstein	955
William Hartman	459

For Two Positions on the Nominating Committee- 2 year term

Leah Foodim	941
Thelma Stevens	930

For Amendments to the By-Laws

Proposition #1	867 yes	37 no
Proposition #2	808 yes	88 no

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Elayne Bernstein welcomed all present and stated that in Rod McKuen's book of poems, "Fields of Wonder" he talks of an Initial Voyage and says:

No clearing in the woods
awaits my coming,
foot or horseback,
except the clearing I make myself.

Reading that poem again I thought of what an apt metaphor those few lines are for the opportunities that await us here in our Library (and others of course), to clear a path for ourselves...to choose a direction completely of our own making.

Our options are many and varied: we offer the latest in technology with OPAC, our Online Public Access Catalog which allows patrons, for the very first time, to access all the Library's holdings; and find out, not only whether the Library owns the material, but also if it is on the shelf at the Main Library or any of the branches. Using computer terminals, we can search_for material by author or title, even if we do not have the author's

full name or a complete title. The ease with which the public has taken to this piece of equipment speaks for itself.

Another state of the art technology is the GENERAL PERIODICALS INDEX, an index to over 1,100 publications covering current events, consumer information, arts and entertainment, travel and business. The Index can be accessed from any of the terminals located in the Main Library and /or any of the branches, as well as from a home computer equipped with a modem. This machine can quickly eliminate what you don't want - it narrows the search and information can then be copied and faxed to the Branches if that is where you are.

For the visually impaired library users, we now have THE READING EDGE which enables one to listen to the printed work. This versatile machine can voice-read a variety of printed materials from personal correspondence to today's newspapers, books, and magazines.

For those whose paths focus on "people" events we have only to consider the many staples we have to offer: Literary Programs, Art Exhibits, Musicales, Film Screenings, Children's programs, Levels, Jr. Levels and videos.

The main focus this year was on our Literary Programs: - Lectures and discussions on current non-fiction, Authors from Great Neck and beyond, the Word of Fiction, The Written Word: Scene and Heard and the Great Books reinforced the power of language.

In addition to exhibitions welcoming fine artists from outside Great Neck such as the Contemporary Black Artists in America, The Studio Center Artists and the Flushing Art League; two of our three annual shows feature the works of local artists: The Artist's Network of Great Neck and The Great Neck Camera Club. The Art Committee, under the able direction of Board of Trustees member Dolly Relkin, coordinates all the exhibits for the community's viewing.

Always sensitive to our on-going parking problems and in an attempt to alleviate the Sunday jam-ups we initiated "Saturday Nights at the Library". Art exhibit opening nights, dramatic readings and other special events provided evenings "out" close to home.

Sundays continued to attract the community to hear our music recitals. The Music Committee Chairpersons, Rita Nelson and Gabe Chieco ever responsive to suggestions from the community have expanded the Classical recital series to include more popular genres...Jazz and Cabaret music.

Our semi-annual book sales are as popular as ever with patrons waiting in line for doors to open. Truly a "happening!".

The continuing popularity of our movie screenings, despite the fact that videos can be taken home, is evidence that the social atmosphere of being together with others is an important function of the Library.

Junior Levels continues to grow and had their own presentation featuring the gala performances and colorful displays of members of the group, a true talent showcase.

Levels continues to offer a wide variety of projects to engage the interest of teenagers and to enhance the growth and development of our youth. What better environment for young people than to come to a house of book-learning PLUS.

The economic situation and changing demographics of the community have contributed to an increase in participation at all children's programs: More parents of young children are spending more time in the Library attending Story Hours and utilizing the space in the children's area. Computers to no one's surprise are always busy.

We embellish the staples of programming with a variety of options: The Japanese Choral group, the Travelogues (slide shows by members of the Camera Club, the writing workshops, Knitter's Network, VITA, Investment Advisory Services, Law lectures for seniors and Health related lectures were well attended.

The Library is a special place, a home away from home for many. The very heart of it remains the books that line the shelves. However, we are more, much more! The opportunity to choose our own path...to clear the woods in our own way...is here at our fingertips.

The service and the implementing of the wishes of our community are in the hands of our superb staff and Director. To them go our deepest appreciation and heartfelt thanks for making this Library one of the outstanding community libraries.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Elayne Bernstein asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the Annual Meeting, January 26, 1993. Motion made by Arthur Lerner, seconded by Jo Ann Farley, to accept the minutes as presented. Motion Carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer, Muriel Kane, reported that our total revenues in 1993 were \$14,181.00 less than what was anticipated. Interest income was down significantly due to declining interest rates.

On the other hand our expenditures were held down to \$441,175. less than what was budgeted. The greatest savings were achieved in the areas of Personnel Services and Employment Benefits. Savings in salaries were achieved in large part due to careful management of personnel hours. Significant savings were also realized by the artificial low cost of employer contributions to the New York State Retirement System. Employer contributions to the retirement system are controlled by the State of New York.

In summary after subtracting the shortfall in revenues the cash balance from the 1993 operating budget is \$426,994.

Motion made by Renee Zarin, seconded by Arthur Lerner, and carried unanimously, it was,

RESOLVED, that the Treasurer's Report for the year ending December 31, 1993 be accepted.

LIBRARY DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Attached to the minutes.

At this time Arlene Nevens did a superb demonstration of our online catalog with live searches.

OLD BUSINESS - None

NEW BUSINESS - None

OPEN TIME

Mr. Boyle commented on some of his issues that have not been addressed by the Board.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion made by Muriel Kane, seconded by Jo Ann Farley, the Annual Meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Muriel Kane
Acting Secretary