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**GREAT NECK LIBRARY ASSOCIATION  
MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING**

**Monday, January 30, 1995**

*Residing*

Renée Zarin, President, called the meeting to order at 10 a.m. Monday, January 30, 1995, for the purpose of voting for members of the Board of Trustees and members of the Nominating Committee. Dolly Relkin, Secretary, stated that she had a quorum of over 100 proxies. Voting took place from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. at 2 locations: The main Library on Bayview Avenue for members north of Northern Blvd.; and the So. High School Auxiliary Gym for members south of Northern Blvd. The business portion of the meeting was recessed until 8 p.m. Tuesday, January 31, 1995.

**Tuesday, January 31, 1995**

The business part of the Annual Meeting of the Great Neck Library was held on Tuesday, January 31, 1995 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 of the Board:

Elayne Bernstein  
Jack Eber  
Jo Ann Farley  
Richard Fuhrman  
Arthur Lerner  
Dolly Relkin  
Renée Zarin

Absent with prior notification: Muriel Kane

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

## CALL TO ORDER

President, Renée Zarin, reconvened the Annual business meeting at 8:02 p.m. and welcomed all present.

**ANNOUNCEMENT OF ELECTION RESULTS** - Dolly Relkin, Secretary, announced the results of the election:

For Two Positions as Trustees -4 yr. term

Steven Glaser - 279  
Renée Zarin - 625  
Ralene Adler -655

For Three Positions on the Nominating Committee - 2 yr term

Stephen Losi - 623  
Pearl Sutter - 642  
Alfred Udow - 618

Ms. Relkin reported on the number of people voting at each location: Main Library 492 voters; South High School 79 voters; and 345 proxies; a total of 916 people voting.

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Renée Zarin stated that in 1994, the Library Board began to develop a long range plan for the entire library system, the centerpiece of which is the possible expansion of the Main Library. To accomplish that task we have begun a thorough review of all library services, and location, construction and parking options. A Citizen's Advisory Building Committee reviewed several options for Library expansion put forward by the Board's Building Committee. These reports, along with other information, will be considered prior to the Board presenting a proposal for public discussion. As part of the Board's ongoing review of Library operations, Levels, the Children's Department, and Circulation service areas were reviewed in depth.

The branch facilities were upgraded this year. Parkville and Lakeville were painted; Parkville also received new air conditioning units and storm windows. The Station Branch sign was finally installed and lit. At the Main Library, the roof was repaired, the lower level lobby painted and the floor

in the multipurpose room replaced. The removal of the Police Booth gave us two additional parking spaces. Other improvements to the parking lot included relocating the handicapped parking area to bring the handicapped parking spaces into compliance with ADA regulations, and creating three spaces reserved for senior citizens.

It was indeed the year of the computer. In 1994, the Library took great strides toward full library and community online participation in the computer age. CCIN, a Community Information Network containing in-depth listings of agencies, organizations, clubs and other resources serving the Great Neck/New Hyde Park community, was added to the Library's OPAC (Online Public Access Catalog) in October. This database will be expanded and updated on a continuous basis.

Many reference works are now available on CD-ROM. We currently subscribe to several CD-ROM products, available at four workstations in the Reference area. The staff has been authorized to proceed with the purchase of a CD-ROM network, workstations for the public and associated CD-ROM database products to provide library users with easy access to a myriad of information sources available throughout the Great Neck Library system. They will have access from the branches and from home through computer and modems.

This past summer, the Internet was made available to users at a workstation located in the Reference area. This workstation enables individuals to access the full range of databases available through the Internet which provides information on a vast array of topics: up-to-date information on the legislative process, weather and health information. One can access other Library catalogs, including the Library of Congress, to search for titles. A patron can send and receive E-mail or access a bulletin board and can be involved in a discussion on any specific topic. We are in the process of establishing a new connection to the Internet which will enable us to provide several specific services to our patrons and also to position us for the rapidly developing services that will be available in the near future.

The Reference Department took advantage of the wide range of information services and resources available outside our own walls to better assist our patrons. We are truly moving into an era where physical boundaries of libraries will not be a limiting factor. A periodicals module was added to the online catalog in late 1993, and during 1994, the current

periodical holdings at the main library were entered. Now periodicals are checked in by computer and periodical holdings information is available to all on the OPAC.

The Library continues to offer an exciting variety of programs. Adult offerings continue to focus on literary works and ideas. Our book discussions series, led by Michael D'Innocenzo, Sandra Rosencrans, Harriet Rieff, and Maureen Picard Robins, illuminated numerous titles and ideas for our patrons in the Library. Helen Crosson led lively book discussions at the Senior Citizen Center. Great Neckers, Ron and Bea Gross, brought their highly successful "Salon" to us, drawing a full house of eager conversationalists to its first session. Our Great Neck Author Series included former residents Judith Goldstein and Stephanie Golden, and longtime residents Murray Teigh Bloom and Joan Swirsky. Shirley Blanc Romaine presented two dramatic evenings: *Of Plays and Players* and *Food, Fabulous Food* to a "sold-out" house. Nationally known freelance writer and (Fear of Flying) workshop leader Carol Cott Gross led a discussion on *Visiting Folks in Florida* and a *Stop Worrying* workshop. VITA volunteers were back again this year to assist patrons with filling out their Income Tax Forms. Writing for business, and personal journals, buying computers, financial planning, understanding financial reports, and issues relating to health and mental health were explored as well. In cooperation with members of the community, a Great Neck Stamp Club was organized and meets monthly in the Main Library.

Our interrelationship with fine arts in the community also flourished last year under chairmanship of Dolly Relkin. Our annual exhibitions by the Artists Network, Contemporary Black Artists in America and the Great Neck Camera Club were filled with beautiful, exciting and thought-provoking visual images. Members of the Camera Club also presented three marvelous multimedia talks, *Tapestry of Sight and Sound* by Nelson Burack, *Journey to China, Part II* by Margo and Eric Kahn and *Antarctica* by Marvin Silverman to filled houses. Exhibits by Long Island based artists including the internationally known master printer and painter Jihong Shi, members of the Aquarelle Club and Manhasset Artists Association rounded out the year's shows. Magda Salvesen's slide lecture on the DeKooning exhibition was outstanding.

The community room resounded with music delights from Gerard Edery's *Treasures of Song* in January to a recital on the piano and glass harmonica by Cecilia Gniewek-Brauer in December. During the rest of the year there was chamber music from the East Bay Chamber Players, jazz performed by the Joe Dixon Quintette, the piano artistry of Andrew .Armstrong, masterful instrumental renderings from a score of Young Musicians and delightful arias from members of the Bronx Opera Company.

Levels, our youth facility for 7th grade through college age youth, continues to offer young people a stage on which to engage in theater performances, rock and jazz concerts, SAT preparation classes, and workshops on a variety of topics from art, to video with dance, movie making, model rocketry and much more. Levels received a national award for one of its video commercials and Jr. Levels Director/Levels Video Instructor David Preisman, accepted the award presented by the Alliance for Community Media at their 1994 International Conference and Trade Show in Honolulu, Hawaii.

Junior Levels continues to expand the horizons for children in grades five and six. In 1994, the after-school workshops in acting, arts & crafts, cartooning, cooking, dance, karate, magic, puppetry and video were filled with enthusiastic participants and the Thursday evening specials offered during the school year attracted many youngsters whose busy schedules prevent them from participating in workshops. Young Adult Librarian, Allison Paulo led an exciting series of book club meetings and Jr. Levels magazine workshops.

Our children's room was busier than ever, filled with parents bringing small babies and elementary school youngsters fulfilling homework assignments. Demand for space in preschool Story Hour programs exceeded capacity. The Kindergarten story hours flourished and the excellent array of special programs offered during school holidays were well received.

In 1994 our four libraries circulated 749,478 items, the highest per capita circulation of library materials of any library system in Nassau County.

Our patrons presented us with several gifts this year. The A.J. Snow Basket of Books Fund will present Book Baskets to newborns whose parents register them for a library card. The fund was established by Adolf Snow's widow and friends. Ms. Liz Williams donated monies to purchase the

Encyclopedia of World Cultures in memory of her mother, Alma R. Colin, and Mrs. Linda Cohen presented the Library with a collection of opera and classical recordings ( 146 CD's, 25 videos and 208 cassettes) in her husband's memory.

It is a rare hour when our library is not bustling with users. Community involvement, support and use give strength and vitality to this extraordinary institution. Library Board meetings are open and public attendance is welcome and encouraged. We ask for your participation and suggestions for ways we can continue to improve our service to you. This library is the cultural center of Great Neck. It is a wonderful place. With your involvement it will continue to be so through the 21st century.

**SECRETARY'S REPORT** -The Secretary announced that copies of the Minutes of the 1994 Annual Meeting were in the Annual Report given to each member present. Upon motion made by Muriel Turk, seconded by Peal Sutter, and unanimously carried it was **RESOLVED** to dispense with reading of the minutes of the Annual Meeting of January 24, 1994, and the Secretary cast one ballot to accept the minutes.

**TREASURER'S REPORT** - Richard Fuhrman, Treasurer, reported that in the Revenue category we ended the year with \$37,398 ahead of Budget. In Expenditures the greatest savings were achieved in personnel Services and Employment Benefits. Savings in Salaries were achieved by improved scheduling, lower employee illness, etc. Significant savings were realized in the Employment Benefits Category with a very small contribution to the Retirement System which is controlled by N.Y. State.

Upon motion made by Arthur Lerner, seconded by Jo Ann Farley, and carried unanimously it was,

**RESOLVED**, that the Treasurer's Report for the year ending December 31, 1994 be accepted.

**LIBRARY DIRECTOR'S REPORT** - Attached to the minutes.

**HONORING JACK EBER (retiring Board Member) and SANDRA O'CONNOR (retiring member of the Nominating Committee).**

President, Renée Zarin, presented Jack Eber with a plaque in appreciation for his twelve years (1983-1995) of dedicated service and outstanding leadership as a member of the Library Board of Trustees.

The President also read a certificate thanking Sandra O'Connor, who was unable to attend, for her 14 years of service on the Nominating Committee and as chairperson for the last 2 years.

**OLD BUSINESS** - None

**NEW BUSINESS** - None

**OPEN TIME** - Questions were received and responded to regarding: Director's Discretionary Fund, Book Budget, Noise on Sundays at Main, and the Library bus.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Upon motion made by Elayne Bernstein, seconded by Dolly Relkin and carried unanimously, the public meeting adjourned at 9:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dolly Relkin  
Secretary