
**GREAT NECK LIBRARY
MINUTES OF THE
SPECIAL BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2022, AT 6:00 P.M.**

A special meeting of the Great Neck Library Board of Trustees with an executive session was held on Wednesday, October 12, 2022, at the Main Library, 159 Bayview Avenue, Great Neck, NY 11023 [Agenda attached]

The following Trustees were present constituting a quorum:

Liman Mimi Hu – President
Josephine Mairzadeh – Vice President
Scott Sontag – Secretary
Kathleen Gold – Treasurer
Barry Smith – Trustee

Also Present: Denise Corcoran – Director

Also Absent: Donald Panetta – Trustee

CALL TO ORDER

President Hu called the meeting to order at 6:12 p.m. She acknowledged the presence of Trustees Mairzadeh, Sontag, Gold, and Smith. President Hu announced that Trustee Panetta stated he would not be attending today due to a family visit. She added that his absence would be further discussed in Executive Session.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Upon motion by Trustee Sontag, seconded by Trustee Gold, it was,

RESOLVED, that the Great Neck Library Board of Trustees enter into Executive Session for a discussion on personnel matters and to receive advice from Counsel.

VOTE: Yes – 5 (Hu, Mairzadeh, Sontag, Gold, Smith)

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Upon motion by Trustee Gold, seconded by Trustee Mairzadeh, it was,

RESOLVED, that the Great Neck Library Board of Trustees exit Executive Session.

VOTE: Yes – 5 (Hu, Mairzadeh, Sontag, Gold, Smith)

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

No action was taken in the executive session.

The board reconvened at 6:54 p.m.

OPEN TIME

S. Khodadadian – 1. Are Parkville Renovations expired due to COVID or are there other reasons?

President Hu responded that the expiration was partly due to COVID and partly due to other factors.

2. Previous reports state that staff is working with external stakeholders to get the front steps at the Main Library repaired. Who are these stakeholders?

President Hu responded that this matter is tied up in ongoing litigation. Trustee Sontag noted that the current board inherited several ongoing issues with the 2016 renovation and are trying to minimize further damage and expense. President Hu recommended she go to the NY Court System website to search library litigations. She added that when she joined the board there were already two ongoing cases.

3. With the recent Nominating Committee resignation, are there enough members remaining for a quorum, and can the committee meet?

President Hu stated that Mr. Steve Jacobs resigned which is the vacancy that will be filled in this upcoming election. She said to reach out directly to the Nominating Committee regarding their procedures.

4. Is the board considering lowering the number of signatures required on an independent petition to run for a seat at the library election?

President Hu stated that lowering the number of signatures requires bylaw changes, either during an annual election or through a special meeting of the board. A special meeting is an election among the library association members. President Hu suggested for Ms. Khodadadian to send her proposal to the board for consideration.

5. What is the status of live-streaming the board meetings?

President Hu responded that the board continues to work on this.

NEW BUSINESS

2. Parkville Renovation

Upon motion by Trustee Smith, seconded by Trustee Gold, it was,

RESOLVED, that Whereas the Library is committed to ensuring the success of the Parkville branch renovation project

And

Whereas the previous bids from 2021 on the project have expired and are no longer valid Now, therefore, be it resolved that the Great Neck Library reject all previous bids and bidders and authorize a rebidding of the project with retention of MDA designgroup for the rebidding process and Construction Observation/Project Closeout with an amended agreement for professional services in the amount of \$ 62,000 plus additional hourly rate services not to exceed \$200.00 per hour and itemized reimbursables per contract.

VOTE: Yes –4 (Hu, Mairzadeh, Gold, Sontag)

Abstain – 1 (Smith)

MOTION CARRIED

Trustee Smith stated that his abstention is due to his intimate involvement with this project.

President Hu announced that the personnel item listed on the agenda has been stricken. She reminded everyone that the last day the library can mail out proxy ballots is October 18. After that requests must be dropped off in person with identification for processing.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

October 25, 2022 - Board Meeting

October 31, 2022 - Annual Meeting/Election – Main Library and Parkville Branch

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:09 pm on a motion by Trustee Sontag and seconded by Trustee Gold.

Respectfully submitted,

Scott Sontag
Secretary, Board of Trustees