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

A special meeting of the Great Neck Library Board of Trustees was held on Tuesday, December 6, 2022, at the Station Branch Library, 26 Great Neck Road, Great Neck, NY 11021 [Agenda attached]

The following Trustees were present constituting a quorum:

Liman Mimi Hu – President
Josephine Mairzadeh – Vice President
Scott Sontag – Secretary
Kathleen Gold – Treasurer
Donald Panetta – Trustee

Also Present: Denise Corcoran – Director
Steven Kashkin – Business Manager

Also Absent: Barry Smith – Trustee

CALL TO ORDER

President Hu called the meeting to order at 6:14 p.m. She acknowledged the presence of Trustees Mairzadeh, Sontag, Gold, and Panetta, along with Library Director Denise Corcoran and Business Manager Steven Kashkin. President Hu noted that Trustee Smith sent an email stating that he is unable to attend due to illness.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON PUBLISHED AGENDA

None

SECRETARY’S REPORT ON ELECTION RESULTS

Secretary Scott Sontag reported the October 31, 2022 election results.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Four-year term ending January 2027 to fill the seat currently held by Liman Mimi Hu

- Liman Mimi Hu (Independent Candidate) 1,760 votes
- Jessica Hughes (Independent Candidate) 1,753 votes

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Four-year term ending January 2027 to fill the seat currently Vacant

- Rory Lancman (Independent Candidate) 1,683 votes
- Christina Rusu (Independent Candidate) 1,626 votes
- Karen Hirsch Romero (Independent Candidate) 154 votes

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Three-year term ending January 2026 to fill the seat currently Vacant

- Kim Schader (Independent Candidate) 1,688 votes
- Sara Rivka Khodadadian (Independent Candidate) 1,667 votes

Total Ballots Cast = 3,570 Quorum Met

Trustee Mairzadeh brought up that several members of the community have expressed their concern over the long lines at the election. Trustee Gold mentioned that many people were idling their vehicles in the parking lot after they were done voting, causing backup and chaos in the parking lot. Trustee Sontag echoed Trustee Gold's frustration with the parking situation at the Main Library during the election and added that there were also complaints over intimidation of those waiting to vote, by being glared at when they were waiting in line. Director Corcoran thinks it is great that so many people want to come out and vote but believes there is a lot that needs to be addressed if voter turnout continues to be this high in future elections. First, there is very little administration staff that can be at the election. Union staff cannot participate. Second, it is extremely challenging to hire trained Nassau County election workers since most commit to working at New York's early voting sites. Finally, adequate space for voting and voter lines is an issue. President Hu noted that although the date of the election and voting hours are specified in the bylaws, the location is not. Therefore, the Station and Lakeville Branches may be considered as additional voting sites. Early voting for the library election may also be an option. Trustee Panetta suggested combining the library election with the school board one. Director Corcoran responded that this has been attempted in the past but has not been successful due to the requirements to vote at the library election differing from those needed to vote for the school board. President Hu clarified that the library does not run the election. The machines are rented from the Nassau County Board of Elections and the election workers are trained poll workers from the Nassau County Board of Elections.

Trustee Sontag advocated for electronic library cards (e-cards) and the ability to link children's cards to the parents' accounts. Trustee Mairzadeh noted the increased activity on the library's social media pages. Director Corcoran shared that the library has a new social media coordinator who is doing a wonderful job. They are currently working on improving the way the newsletters are done since the current process is incredibly time-consuming.

MINUTES

Board Minutes

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

MOVED, that the Great Neck Library Board of Trustees approve the minutes of the November 15, 2022, Board meeting as presented.

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

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

NEW BUSINESS

1. Approve Contract with H2M architects and engineers

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

RESOLVED, that the Great Neck Library Board of Trustees approve the proposed contract from H2M architects and engineers, dated November 9, 2022, to perform the services provided for therein, including but not limited to the development of construction documents, bidding support services, construction support services, construction observation services, and close out services to repair the deficiencies at Main at the front entryway, the upper-level roof, modifications to mechanical, electrical, plumbing and fire protection systems, including the second-floor air handler noise, and lower level sprinklers, with a base scope cost of \$183,425.00 plus additional reimbursable expenses allowable of \$29,500.00 for a total of \$212,925, to be charged to the Main Building and Special Services Fund. The contract is to be executed by the Board President.

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

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2. Contract Amendment for Engineering Services for Parkville Branch Renovation

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

RESOLVED, that the Great Neck Library Board of Trustees accept the proposed amendment to the contract with Cameron Engineering Services for M/E/P/FP/S engineering services for the Parkville Branch renovation in the amount of \$8,500; to be charged to the Branch and Special Services Fund; with any additional services authorized before the work commences. Contract to be reviewed by counsel prior to being executed by the director.

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

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

3. Personnel Report

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

RESOLVED, that the Great Neck Library Board of Trustees approve personnel items 1a-c and 2a on the attached Personnel Report.

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

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

CORRESPONDENCE

None

OPEN TIME

None

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

December 20, 2022 – Board Meeting

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:15 pm on a motion by Trustee Sontag and seconded by Trustee Mairzadeh.

Respectfully submitted,

Scott Sontag
Secretary, Board of Trustees