

**GREAT NECK LIBRARY ASSOCIATION
MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING
OCTOBER 31, 2022, AND JANUARY 3, 2023**

MONDAY, OCTOBER 31, 2022

The Annual Meeting/Election of the Great Neck Library Association was held on Monday, October 31, 2022, for the purpose of voting to fill two expiring seats on the Board of Trustees (Liman Mimi Hu and Vacant Seat) and one expiring seat on the Nominating Committee (Vacant Seat).

The meeting was called to order by Trustee Sontag (Main Library) and Trustee Panetta (Parkville Branch Library) at 10:00 a.m. Voting took place in person from 10:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. in the Main Library, 159 Bayview Road, Great Neck, New York 11021, and in the Parkville Branch Library, 10 Campbell Street, New Hyde Park, New York 11040. Trustee Sontag (Main Library) and Trustee Panetta (Parkville Branch Library) declared the polls closed at 10:00 p.m.

The Re-Organization portion of the Annual Meeting was recessed until Tuesday, January 3, 2023.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 3, 2023

The Annual Re-Organization Meeting of the Great Neck Library Board of Trustees, was convened at 6:18 p.m. at the Main Library, 159 Bayview Road, Great Neck, New York 11021. The agenda is attached.

The following Trustees were present constituting a quorum of the Board:

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

Also present: Denise Corcoran - Director
Stephen Martir - Library Counsel

Also absent: Steven Kashkin - Business Manager

CALL TO ORDER

President Hu called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m. and wished everyone a happy 2023. She acknowledged the presence of Denise Corcoran, Library Director; Stephen Martir, Library Counsel; and all the trustees.

WELCOMING REMARKS BY PRESIDENT

President Hu expressed her gratitude to the Great Neck Library community for what has been accomplished this year, together. Thinking back to the spring, the Library fully reopened all our

services to our community as we emerged from the pandemic world. We inaugurated a late-fee amnesty program to welcome our patrons. In April, we formed our Long-Range Planning Committee, and months of collaboration resulted in a perspective on the future of our Library. In June, we completed our first-ever diversity audit to bring attention to it in our hiring, programming, and collections. In August, we renewed our contract with the staff union., for the first time in more than 10 years. This confirms that we value our professional and support staff and makes our library able to retain and attract talented and dedicated employees. In October, we had an historic turnout in our annual election. In December, after carefully re-evaluating the renovation project for the Parkville branch and the repair needs at the Main Library, we are preparing for these projects to take off next year. The Library Board of Trustees is committed to making our spending reflect our community's needs. We made a significant investment in our state-of-the-art equipment in scanning, printing, and STEM labs. We reviewed and revised our policies. We put our imprimatur on innovations, beginning with our Library of Things. Among our achievements this year, we are proud to be recognized by Blank Slate Media as the best Children's Library in Nassau County. We are confident that the Great Neck Library will be a leader on Long Island. As we close out this demanding but nonetheless eventful year, we are ready for the challenges that lie ahead.

Trustee Gold is looking forward to a great year ahead and is excited about the Library of Things launching next week. She is thankful for Director Denise Corcoran's leadership.

Trustee Sontag noted the initiative with the schools, public and private, regarding SEPTA-based programming that was taken on by Director Denise Corcoran. He applauds Director Corcoran's efforts on this, the Library of Things, and numerous other ongoing library projects.

REPORTS

Reports from the President, Treasurer, and Director are in the Annual Report attached to these minutes.

Respectfully submitted,
Scott Sontag
Secretary, Board of Trustees

NEW BUSINESS

The new board reconvened at 6:15 p.m. at which time Stephen Martir, Library Counsel, welcomed new trustee Rory Lancman.

(a) ELECTION OF OFFICERS

PRESIDENT

Kathleen Gold nominated Rory Lancman. *Rory Lancman received five votes.* There were no other nominations.

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

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of the Great Neck Library elect Rory Lancman as President of the Board of Trustees for a one-year term ending January 2024.

VOTE: Yes - 5 (Lancman, Gold, Mairzadeh, Panetta, Smith)
Abstain – 2 (Hu, Sontag)

MOTION CARRIED

VICE PRESIDENT

Kathleen Gold nominated Scott Sontag. Barry Smith nominated Kathleen Gold. *Scott Sontag received five votes. Trustee Gold declined the nomination.*

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

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of the Great Neck Library elect Scott Sontag as Vice President of the Board of Trustees for a one-year term ending January 2024.

VOTE: Yes - 5 (Lancman, Sontag, Gold, Hu, Mairzadeh)
Abstain – 2 (Panetta, Smith)

MOTION CARRIED

SECRETARY

Josephine Mairzadeh nominated Kathleen Gold. *Kathleen Gold received seven votes.* There were no other nominations.

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

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of the Great Neck Library elect Kathleen Gold as Secretary of the Board of Trustees for a one-year term ending January 2024.

VOTE: Yes - 7 (Lancman, Sontag, Gold, Hu, Mairzadeh, Panetta, Smith)
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

TREASURER

Scott Sontag nominated Mimi Hu. Barry Smith nominated Donald Panetta. *Mimi Hu received four votes. Donald Panetta received three votes.*

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

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of the Great Neck Library elect Mimi Hu as Treasurer of the Board of Trustees for a one-year term ending January 2024.

VOTE: Yes - 5 (Lancman, Sontag, Gold, Hu, Mairzadeh)
Abstain – 2 (Panetta, Smith)

MOTION CARRIED

Trustee Lancman thanked the board for their trust. The Great Neck Library is a wonderful library and he is proud to be a part of it, use it, and be on its board. Mr. Lancman said he is here to try to help govern better and connect better with the community. He is certain that every member of this board has a vision as to what they want to achieve and his hope is that they will be able to accomplish this with the full support of the institution. Mr. Lancman stated that he is looking forward to working with all of the trustees on continuing to deliver a wonderful library for all the residents of Great Neck.

Trustee Sontag agrees with the idea of working together. His job is to support the president. He loves the library and looks forward to collaborating with the entire board to achieve some common goals.

Trustee Smith shared an analogy on the importance of doing the right thing. He concurs with the need for all trustees to work together.

Trustee Lancman suggested the addition of two assistant treasurers for better collaboration among trustees.

ASSISTANT TREASURER

Scott Sontag nominated Josephine Mairzadeh. *Josephine Mairzadeh received seven votes.* There were no other nominations.

Upon motion by Trustee Hu, seconded by Trustee Lancman, it was,

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of the Great Neck Library elect Josephine Mairzadeh as Assistant Treasurer of the Board of Trustees for a one-year term ending January 2024.

VOTE: Yes - 7 (Lancman, Sontag, Gold, Hu, Mairzadeh, Panetta, Smith)

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ASSISTANT TREASURER

Barry Smith nominated Donald Panetta. *Donald Panetta received four votes.* There were no other nominations.

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

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of the Great Neck Library elect Donald Panetta as Assistant Treasurer of the Board of Trustees for a one-year term ending January 2024.

VOTE: Yes - 6 (Lancman, Sontag, Gold, Mairzadeh, Panetta, Smith)

Abstain – 1 (Hu)

MOTION CARRIED

(b) 2023/2024 BOARD MEETING DATES

The board reviewed the proposed meeting dates and agreed to defer this item to the next board meeting which is tentatively scheduled for January 24th.

(c) **Signing of Required Documents**

1. Confidentiality Agreement
2. Trustee Code of Ethics
3. Conflict of Interest
4. Whistleblower Protection Policy

OPEN TIME

- R. Gilliar – Confidentiality for Board Treasurer and all Trustees
- I. Amir – Library’s legal fees

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:56 p.m. on a motion by Trustee Lancman and seconded by Trustee Smith.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Gold
Secretary, Board of Trustees