
**GREAT NECK LIBRARY
MINUTES OF THE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2023, AT 6:00 P.M.**

A regular meeting of the Great Neck Library Board of Trustees with an executive session was held on Tuesday, September 19, 2023, at the Main Library, 159 Bayview Avenue, Great Neck, NY 11023 [Agenda attached]

The following Trustees were present constituting a quorum:

Rory Lancman – President
Scott Sontag – Vice President
Kathleen Gold – Secretary
Mimi Hu – Treasurer
Donald Panetta – Assistant Treasurer
Barry Smith – Trustee

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

Also Absent: Josephine Mairzadeh – Assistant Treasurer

CALL TO ORDER

President Lancman called the meeting to order at 6:09 p.m. Trustees Sontag, Hu, Panetta, and Smith were in attendance along with Library Director Denise Corcoran and Business Manager Steven Kashkin.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

RESOLVED, that the Great Neck Library Board of Trustees enter into Executive Session to discuss personnel and records request - litigation matters.

VOTE: Yes – 5 (Lancman, Sontag, Hu, Panetta, Smith)

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Trustee Gold joined the executive session at 6:12 p.m.

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

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

VOTE: Yes – 6 (Lancman, Sontag, Gold, Hu, Panetta, Smith)

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

No action was taken in the executive session.

The board reconvened at 7:00 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON PUBLISHED AGENDA

C. Mahgerefteh – Meet the Candidates Night scheduling

SECRETARY’S REPORT ON INDEPENDENT CANDIDATES

Trustee Gold read aloud:

Scott Sontag has filed a petition as an Independent Candidate for the October 30, 2023, election for the Board of Trustees expiring seat of Scott Sontag. The petition has the required 100 signatures which have been validated.

Sara Rivka Khodadadian has filed a petition as an Independent Candidate for the October 30, 2023, election for the Board of Trustees expiring seat of Scott Sontag. The petition has the required 100 signatures which have been validated.

Chayim Mahgerefteh has filed a petition as an Independent Candidate for the October 30, 2023, election for the Board of Trustees expiring seat of Scott Sontag. The petition has the required 100 signatures which have been validated.

Aliza Reicher has filed a petition as an Independent Candidate for the October 30, 2023, election for the Board of Trustees expiring seat of Scott Sontag. The petition has the required 100 signatures which have been validated.

Daniel Pitt Stoller has filed a petition as an Independent Candidate for the October 30, 2023, election for the Nominating Committee expiring seat of Marietta DiCamillo. The petition has the required 100 signatures which have been validated.

Joanna Stolove has filed a petition as an Independent Candidate for the October 30, 2023, election for the Nominating Committee expiring seat of Marianna Wohlgemuth. The petition has the required 100 signatures which have been validated.

The October election ballot will contain the following:

- Scott Sontag, Sara Rivka Khodadadian, Chayim Mahgerefteh, and Aliza Reicher for the expiring seat of Scott Sontag; Board of Trustees
- Daniel Pitt Stoller for the expiring seat of Marietta DiCamillo; Nominating Committee
- Joanna Stolove for the expiring seat of Marianna Wohlgemuth; Nominating Committee

MINUTES

Board Minutes

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

MOVED, that the Great Neck Library Board of Trustees approve the minutes of the July 18, 2023, special board meeting as presented.

VOTE: Yes – 6 (Lancman, Sontag, Gold, Hu, Panetta, Smith)

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

TREASURER/BUSINESS MANAGER REPORT

Business Manager Steven Kashkin summarized his report.

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

RESOLVED, that the Great Neck Library Board of Trustees accept the following financial reports:

- a. September 19, 2023, Treasurer's Report;
- b. Warrant dated July 3, 2023, through July 9, 2023, which has been reviewed by the Treasurer, the sums set against their respective names, amounting in the aggregate to \$711,062.86.
- c. Warrant dated August 2, 2023, through August 6, 2023, which has been reviewed by the Treasurer, the sums set against their respective names, amounting in the aggregate to \$440,041.67.
- d. Warrant dated September 4, 2023, through September 10, 2023, which has been reviewed by the Treasurer, the sums set against their respective names, amounting in the aggregate to \$472,447.86.
- e. Payroll Warrants for pay dates June 1, June 15, and June 29, 2023, which have been reviewed by the Treasurer, (in the amounts of \$166,026.70, \$153,224.80 and \$161,410.63, respectively,) for a total of \$480,662.13.
- f. Payroll Warrants for pay dates July 13, and July 27, 2023, which have been reviewed by the Treasurer, (in the amounts of \$182,541.61, and \$147,944.01, respectively) for a total of \$330,485.62.
- g. Payroll Warrants for pay dates August 10, and August 24, 2023, which have been reviewed by the Treasurer, (in the amounts of \$155,168.55 and \$146,180.07 respectively,) for a total of \$301,348.62.

VOTE: Yes – 6 (Lancman, Sontag, Gold, Hu, Panetta, Smith)

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Business Manager Steven Kashkin summarized the legal fees relating to several lawsuits. For Bee Ready Law: to date approximately \$84,000, which includes \$27,000 for the State Division of Human Resources (SDHR), \$4,000 for complaint to the NAACP, \$34,000 for the suit with the Nominating Committee and two trustees, and \$19,000 for election-related lawsuits. For Greenburg Traurig: thru June 2023 approximately \$253,000. To offset these costs, the insurance company has reimbursed approximately \$29,000. For Jaspen Schlesinger (for suit pertaining to Main Renovation): to date, since 2018, approximately \$193,000.

PAYROLL CHANGES

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

RESOLVED, that the Great Neck Library Board of Trustees accept the Payroll Changes report of July 14, 2023, through September 14, 2023, as presented, which has been reviewed by the Treasurer.

VOTE: Yes – 6 (Lancman, Sontag, Gold, Hu, Panetta, Smith)

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

REPORTS

Director's Report

Director Denise Corcoran summarized her written report which is attached below:

ADMINISTRATION

- The Great Neck Library was named **Best Children's Library in Nassau County** for the second consecutive year.
- We received a letter of congratulations from Councilmember Veronic Lurvey on being designated by Blank Slate Media as Best Children's Library in Nassau County for the second consecutive year.
- Our election cycle has started. Independent petitions were submitted and verified. Eligible voters will elect three seat expiring in January 2024 – one on the Board of Trustees for a four-year term running January 2024-28 (Scott Sontag) and two on the Nominating Committee for a three-year term running January 2024-27 (Marietta DiCamillo and Marianna Wohlgemuth). The list of candidates is contained in the Secretary's report to the board.
- The 2023 request for proxy form is now available online and at all branches. October 20th is the last day for the Library to receive proxy request forms.
- Our new wireless printing system from TBS, has ben installed. Patrons can send print materials to our printers from our computers or from their own devices. Currently, the system supports the following types of files: .pdf, .jpg, .png, .gif, .bmp, .tif, .tiff, .doc, .docx, .pub, .rtf, .htm, .txt, .html, .xlsx, .xls, .pptx, .ppt, .odt, .xps, .ods, .odp
The wireless printing stations allows patrons to pay for prints at the printing station without having to make a separate trip to Circulation as before. Payments accepted include cash, coin, and credit.
The new system has a component that replaces the public computer management system that we had been using with one which allows our patrons to add time to their session without staff assistance.
The ScanEZ station from TBS has also been installed. The multilingual interface allows users to switch on-screen text to one of 25 different languages such as Arabic, Chinese, Hebrew, Persian, Korean, Russian, and Spanish among others. It has accessibility features of a mag 1 lifier, narrator, and high contrast. The ScanEZ station has translation which can convert documents to user's choice of over 100 languages. The station also had editing capabilities as well as image enhancement technology to restore old photos, newspapers, and documents.
- We will be doing our annual patron records purge of inactive expired cards as per Policy 400-35 Patron Record Retention.
- Staff have completed annual "Harassment Prevention" training with a few exceptions. This training is mandated by New York State.
- Staff are in the process of completing "Managing the Workplace Bully" training. This training covers workplace violence and creating a healthy, productive, pleasant work environment.
- Staff have begun training for our new Collection HQ collection maintenance and management system. We are the first to begin using the system in Nassau County, but other libraries have planned to add the system. The system is used in some of the largest libraries throughout the world.
- The 2023 Nassau Library Tour which encouraged Nassau County library patrons to visit as many Nassau County libraries as possible from June 12-August 12 brought many visitors to the Great Neck Library. Visitors received tour maps at their first stop library and received small prizes at their visits. Those who visited all of the libraries were entered in an NLS (Nassau Library System) raffle for a grand prize basket.
Visit total to the Great Neck Library are as follows: Main – 879, Lakeville – 1,027, Station – 934
- On August 9th we had our bi-monthly all-staff meeting.
- Each Wednesday, I have a round-robin virtual meeting with department heads, branch heads, and administrators.
- Each week I meet individually with department heads and branch heads.
- We continue to review policies and procedures
- I reviewed and approved several staff performance evaluations.
- I reviewed and approved vacation, leave, FMLA requests.
- I had several meetings with various staff to resolve HR questions, queries, and issues.
- We continue to post, interview, and make recommendations for hire for open funded positions.
- The Great Neck Library continues to accept donations of new and gently used books in good condition at all locations. Patrons leaving their information when they donate receive a letter of gratitude.
- I reviewed invoices to be processed for BoT approval.

COMMUNITY & OUTREACH

- On July 11th we hosted Coffee with the Director at Station. I had an opportunity to speak with several patrons who suggested more adult programming for Station.
- The Great Neck Library participated in the National Night Out Against Crime with the Nassau County Police Dept. Sixth Precinct at Whitney Pond in Manhasset.
- The Great Neck Library hosted a table at the Funday Monday event on Monday, August 21 at North Hempstead Beach Park in Port Washington.
- We received a lovely donation of wood giraffes from our patron Suzette Gray.
- We met with the GNSD SEPTA president to plan programs for the upcoming school year.
- We provided space for a Sept. 11th Memorial Service with Councilwoman Veronica Lurvey when the ceremony needed to be moved from the bridge outside when rain began.
- We continue to collaborate with the Lions Club as a drop off site for their eyeglass collection program.
- We continue to collaborate with Island Harvest and continue to host a food donation box at Main.
- We continue to collaborate with Humane Urban Group by contributing discarded outdated newspapers for their feral cat program.

MAIN LIBRARY

- The curved seating has been reupholstered and returned to Main.
- Staff lockers have been installed at Main. The original lockers arrived damaged. The vendor replaced the lockers and asked us to dispose of the damaged lockers. They have been offered to the Manhasset-Lakeville Fire Dept. for use.
- The interior ladder to the roof had broken and has been repaired.
- On August 21st we had to evacuate the building when the fire alarm sounded. The fire dept. responded and gave the all clear to return.
- Great Neck School District North High and Middle Bus 44, South Middle Bus 22, and South High Bus 5 will have stops at Bayview Ave. and Grist Mill Lane once again this year for students.
- We noticed Spotted Lantern Flies on a tree on the northwest side of the building. The tree is damaged. We reported the sighting of the flies to the New York State Dept. of Environmental Conservation as required. We will need to be contacting professionals to see if the tree can be saved or needs to be removed.
- The trees in the parking lot at Main need to be pruned. We will be getting pricing.
- We had requested pricing from our landscaper to put seed in the front areas that are bare. The landscaper advised that there is not enough sunlight to grow grass on the large island in front of the entryway.

BRANCHES

Parkville Renovation Information

- The Parkville branch closed for renovations as of July 1, 2023. The renovation is anticipated to take between 4-6 months.
- We have collaborated with the Hillside Public Library as a location where our patrons can browse, borrow books, and pick-up their Great Neck Library holds. The total of requested holds delivered to the Hillside Public Library are as follows: July – 177, August – 210, Sept – 55 (as of 9/13)
- Hold can be requested by calling the Great Neck Library, placed online at www.greatnecklibrary.org or through the Great Neck Library app.
- Patrons can still choose to pick up holds at Main, Station, or Lakeville.
- The return bin I still open and available as a book return for patrons.
- We are coordinating with the Town of North Hempstead and have reserved space at the Clinton G. Martin Community Center for library programs. These programs will be listed in our newsletter and on the calendar of events on our website. Our regular Parkville book club will meet there for their monthly discussion.
- Parkville Library of Things items and Pick-up/Return Museum passes can be picked up at our Station Branch.
- Postcards were sent to Parkville patrons noting the closure information and collaboration with Hillside Public Library.
- A banner was placed at Parkville with closure information and was updated as more information became available.

Lakeville and Station

- The elevator at the Station Branch has been repaired.
- We have been having issues with the HVAC system at Station with lack of airflow and leaking. The landlord has been notified and is working on the issue.
- We received a tax bill from the new landlord at Station and are working to resolve.
- Although the neighboring business next to Lakeville has been addressing their problems with noise transfer, more work needs to be done.

LEGISLATION

- New York State Labor Law §194-b was recently amended to provide for a mandator disclosure of compensation or the range of compensation in job postings and in advertisements for job opportunities, promotions, and transfers. Job descriptions must also be disclosed if they exist. The new law goes into effect September 17, 2023

Long-Range Planning Committee

Trustee Sontag provided an update regarding the Community Partnership agreement that was previously discussed and noted that there is a resolution on tonight's agenda pertaining to it. Trustee Sontag noted that the committee is also working on other endeavors, such as; leadership programs, fundraising, and sustainability.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Untable Motion to Approve Partnership Agreement & Authorize Website Update

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

RESOLVED, that the Great Neck Library Board of Trustees take from the table the motion to approve the Community Partners Program and Agreement and authorize a website update with this information

VOTE: Yes – 4 (Lancman, Sontag, Panetta, Smith)

No – 2 (Gold, Hu)

MOTION CARRIED

Trustee Hu stated that none of the issues she has brought up on this in the past have been addressed. Trustee Lancman believes this is a good opportunity and will help streamline the process for organizations to partner with the library. Trustee Smith opines that this program will be a step towards repairing the reputation of the library. Trustee Gold is still unclear on why formalizing what is already being done by the library is necessary.

2. Approve Partnership Agreement and Authorize Website Update

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

RESOLVED, WHEREAS, it is the Library's mission to engage our diverse community, inspire ideas, and accelerate lifelong learning through traditional and innovative library services: (1) to inspire personal and professional growth; (2) to foster a collaborative and welcoming environment within and beyond the Library; and (3) to contribute to the development of a curious, compassionate, and resilient community; and

WHEREAS, in furtherance of its mission, the Library endeavors to enter into long term partnerships with community organizations to cultivate mutually beneficial relationships between the Library and community organizations which will enhance the ability of the Library and its collaborators to better serve the Great Neck/North New Hyde Park communities; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Library Director shall create a community partnership program; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that, after creation of such program, the Library Director shall form partnerships with those organizations that wish to partnership with the Library, who, in the Library Director's opinion, meet the criteria for partnership with the Library; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the criteria for partnership with the Library shall include, but not be limited to, (1) the mission of the partner and its alignment with the Library's mission, (2) the impact of the partnership on the community, (3) the benefits of entering into the partnership and (4) the resources needed for such partnership; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Library Director shall display community partnerships on the Library's website.

VOTE: Yes – 4 (Lancman, Sontag, Panetta, Smith)

No – 2 (Gold, Hu)

MOTION CARRIED

Trustee Smith left at 8:18 pm

3. Approve Moving of Polling Site from Parkville Branch

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

RESOLVED, that the Great Neck Library Board of Trustees approve the moving of the polling site from the Parkville Branch to Manhasset-Lakeville Fire Department, 21 78th Avenue, New Hyde Park, for the October 30, 2023, library election only, due to the ongoing Parkville Branch Renovations, and authorize the Director to put out notices with the voters

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

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

4. Approve Personnel for Library Election

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

RESOLVED, that the Great Neck Library Board of Trustees approve the hiring of personnel for the October 30, 2023, library election as listed on the attached report.

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

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

5. Board Volunteers to Open and Close Polls

For the October 30, 2023, Annual Election: Trustee Lancman volunteered to open the polls at the Main Library. Trustee Hu volunteered to close the polls at the Main Library. Trustee Smith or Mairzadeh will open the polls at Great Neck Plaza Village Hall. Trustee Gold volunteered to close the polls at Great Neck Village Hall. Trustee Panetta volunteered to open and close the polls at the Manhasset-Lakeville Fire Department.

6. Property Liability Insurance Renewal

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

RESOLVED, that the Great Neck Library Board of Trustees renew its property/liability insurance Commercial Package, Automobile, and Umbrella policies for the period September 1, 2023, through August 31, 2024, with Utica Insurance Companies as presented by Edwards and Company, for a total of \$75,018.83 to be charged to the Property/Liability Insurance line of the operating budget.

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

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

7. Approve Invitation to Bid for Reconstruction of the Main Library Front Entryway

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

RESOLVED, that the Great Neck Library Board of Trustees approve issuing the invitation to bid for the reconstruction of the Main Library Front Entryway by the Director, pending legal review.

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

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

8. Approve Construction Change Order #7 for Parkville Branch Renovation to Replace Light Fixtures

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

RESOLVED, that the Great Neck Library Board of Trustees approve the Construction Change Order to furnish and install 64 light fixtures at the Parkville Branch in the amount of \$15,842.38 from Jobco Incorporated; such funds to be taken from the Branch and Special Services Fund.

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

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9. Approve Construction Change Order #8 for Parkville Branch Renovation to Replace Floor in Existing Bathrooms

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

RESOLVED, that the Great Neck Library Board of Trustees approve the Construction Change Order to demolish and replace existing flooring in two bathrooms at the Parkville Branch in the amount of \$10,563.69 from Jobco Incorporated; such funds to be taken from the Branch and Special Services Fund.

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

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

10. Approve Construction Change Order #9 for Parkville Branch Renovation to Relocate Items in Server Room

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

RESOLVED, that the Great Neck Library Board of Trustees approve the Construction Change Order to relocate items in existing server/equipment closet to a new server cabinet at the Parkville Branch in the amount of \$12,278.47 from Jobco Incorporated; such funds to be taken from the Branch and Special Services Fund.

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

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

11. Approve Construction Change Order #10 for Parkville Branch Renovation to Install Ceiling Insulation

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

RESOLVED, that the Great Neck Library Board of Trustees approve the Construction Change Order to furnish and install ceiling installation at the Parkville Branch in the amount of \$2,250.60 from Jobco Incorporated; such funds to be taken from the Branch and Special Services Fund.

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

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

12. Approve Construction Change Order #11 for Parkville Branch Renovation to Replace Exhaust Fan

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

RESOLVED, that the Great Neck Library Board of approve the Construction Change Order to furnish and install existing exhaust fan in staff pantry at the Parkville Branch in the amount of \$1,307.00 from Jobco Incorporated; such funds to be taken from the Branch and Special Services Fund.

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

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

13. Approve Construction Change Order #12 for Parkville Branch Renovation to Reroute Condensate Line

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

RESOLVED, that the Great Neck Library Board of Trustees approve the Construction Change Order to clean and reroute condensate line at the Parkville Branch in the amount of \$1,210.00 from Jobco Incorporated; such funds to be taken from the Branch and Special Services Fund.

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

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

14. Personnel

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

RESOLVED, that the Great Neck Library Board of Trustees approve personnel items, 1a-d, 2a-c, and 3a, on the attached Personnel Report.

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

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

15. Approve Construction Change Order for Parkville Branch Renovation for Alternate Competitor Quote

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

RESOLVED, that the Great Neck Library Board of Trustees approve the Construction Change for alternate competitor quote with full scope including media pull out shelving and laminate canopy tops and stack ends for the Parkville Branch in the amount of \$14,756 from Insidesource; such funds to be taken from the Branch and Special Services Fund.

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

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

16. Discussion – Board Meeting Start Time

Director Denise Corcoran shared that several patrons have reached out in hopes of having the board meeting start time moved to a later time. The board deliberated the possibility of this and asked for this discussion to be continued at the next board meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE

V. Lurvey letter
M. DiCamillo letter

OPEN TIME

Trustee Panetta – stated that he cannot think of a single day that someone has not come up to him to complain about Parkville. He said that people are so upset in the South. They have no place to go to and there is no alternative. Trustee Panetta continued that we knew about this in February and that was the time for the Director to start looking for an alternative location or bookmobile. Trustee Panetta loudly said, “EVERY DAY, DENISE. EVERY DAY I WAS APPROACHED BY SOMEONE SAYING SOMETHING AND DON’T THINK THAT HILLSIDE IS A FRIEND OF OURS BECAUSE ONE OF THE MEMBERS OF THE POOL I BELONG TO IS A MEMBER THERE AND THEY DID WANT TO CHARGE US, BY THE WAY, FOR THEIR SERVICES!” Director Corcoran confirmed that Hillside did not charge Great Neck. Trustee Panetta interrupted saying that he knows that they did not. Trustee Gold told Trustee Panetta that they are a team and should not be shouting. Trustee Panetta repeated that there is a lot of frustration being expressed to him by the people of the south. Trustee Lancman asked Trustee Panetta to give Director Corcoran the opportunity to speak. Director Corcoran said that is not the information that is being communicated to her. Trustee Panetta interrupted again shouting, “I AM OUT THERE EVERY DAY AND I SEE IT!” Trustee Lancman once again asked Trustee Panetta to let the director speak. Director Corcoran explained that Hillside Library has partnered with the library at no charge. Trustee Panetta interrupted again yelling at Denise “HILLSIDE IS NOT PARKVILLE!” Trustee Lancman said that it is not right for Trustee Panetta to keep speaking over Ms. Corcoran. Director Corcoran continued that the patrons of Parkville will be getting a beautiful, brand-new library. Hillside is being well utilized by the Parkville patrons. In July 177 holds were delivered there and in August 210 holds were delivered. As of September 13th, 55 holds have been delivered to Hillside. She announced that people are going there, using the library, and having their holds delivered there. This is not costing us anything. Ms. Corcoran continued that she and Steve (Kashkin) did, in fact, search for a bookmobile or temporary rental early in the process. Trustee Panetta, once again, interrupted her shouting, “YOU EXPLORED THE STOREFRONTS IN AUGUST! YOU SHOULD HAVE EXPLORED THEM IN FEBRUARY!” Trustee Lancman responded to Trustee Panetta that he is not correct and that he has to let the Director speak. Trustee Gold said that this is not productive. Director Corcoran added that even the realtor that Trustee Panetta connected her with was unsuccessful in finding an empty storefront to rent.

Trustee Panetta loudly reiterated, “DENISE, I’M TELLING YOU THERE IS A LOT OF RESENTMENT OUT THERE! A LOT!” He asked what accommodations are being made for the people of Parkville to pick up or drop off their proxies. Director Corcoran responded that proxy requests can be downloaded. Trustee Gold added that completed forms can be mailed. Trustee Hu clarified that dropping off proxy ballots in person is only allowed on the Friday before the election. Trustee Panetta insisted, “YOU USED TO BE ABLE TO DROP THEM OFF AT THE LIBRARY. YOU CAN’T DO THAT ANYMORE. WHAT ADJUSTMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE? WHAT ADDITIONAL DROP-OFF LOCATIONS ARE THERE?” Trustee Lancman and all trustees present affirmed that in-person proxy drop-off is only available for one day. Trustee Lancman confirmed that there aren’t places available with a short-term lease option that can be built out to meet the library’s various requirements. Director Corcoran added that even if there had been it would have cost the library tens of thousands of dollars.

Trustee Hu recalls all of Trustee Panetta's concerns being addressed very early on in the process. This included the renting of a bookmobile which was not possible because they are only available for purchase. Trustee Panetta shouted, "WHEN SHELTER ROCK CLOSED FOR RENOVATION, THEY HAD A STOREFRONT. WHEN HILLSIDE CLOSED FOR RENOVATION, THEY BOTH HAD A STOREFRONT." Director Corcoran stated this is not a fair comparison since both of those libraries are stand-alone, unlike Great Neck which has three other locations. Trustee Panetta yelled, "DENISE, I'M TELLING YOU, DOWN THERE, THEY ARE NOT HAPPY! THEY ARE NOT HAPPY!" She continued that programming for Parkville patrons has been added at Clinton G. Martin Community Center. This includes the monthly book club meetings. Therefore, arrangements have been made to provide services for Parkville patrons during the renovation. Trustee Sontag agreed that a lot is being done and people just need to find the information which is available to them. He added that they are part of the Nassau Library System, thus Hillside will not charge Great Neck patrons to use their services. Trustee Panetta assured that if one of the branches in the north was closed without accommodations there would be a revolution. Director Corcoran reminded him that when Main was closed for two years, and when Station was closed there were no accommodations. Director Corcoran encouraged Trustee Panetta to share all this with patrons who may not be aware of all these services.

L Bursky Toma – Policies regarding outside organizations utilizing library meeting space.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

October 17, 2023 – Board Meeting (Main Library)

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:14 p.m. on a motion by Trustee Lancman and seconded by Trustee Sontag.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Gold
Secretary, Board of Trustees