

Great Neck Library
Long Range Planning Committee

January 29, 2025
via Zoom
11:00 a.m.

BOARD MEMBERS

Rory Lancman (RL), Chair
Brachah Goykadosh (BG)
Chayim Mahgerefteh (CM)
Aliza Reicher (AR)

LIBRARY STAFF

Denise Corcoran (DC), Library Director
Kathryn Baumgartner (KG), Assistant Director
Steven Kashkin (SK), Business Manager
Adam Hinz (AH), System Coordinator of Programming

Call to Order

RL called the meeting of the Long-Range Planning Committee to order at 11:03 a.m.

Sunday Hours

The committee discussed the possibility of extending Sunday hours. CM would like the library open to give the community a quiet place to study. He does not feel that every department needs to be available or that programs must be offered. BG agrees with giving people a space to study but thinks access to all library services should be provided. AR said that to justify the large expense of increasing Sunday hours, they have to ensure there is community demand for it. She suggested rolling out the hours as a pilot program. CM believes people are willing to increase their taxes if they see their money going to a greater cause. DC affirmed she has a good idea of what the board wants. Although CM's idea of opening the library on Sundays as a study place is good, she opines that people will, most likely, expect full access to library services. If the board chooses to move forward with this, they should be all in and provide the same level of service offered at all times. DC hopes to have updates at the next board meeting. RL noted that extending hours involves proper staffing, and the library staff is in a union, which may impact some of the things they are trying to do. He added that DC will speak with them about this. RL said the goal is to have a cost estimate of extending Sunday hours by March for budget planning.

Capital Plan

RL announced that in the last year, the library has invested in several projects such as Parkville's renovation, the front steps, and the roof of the Main Library, etc. This has been done deliberately, but it will be beneficial to have a capital plan going forward. The board should consider what they want to do over the next two to five years and where the money will come from. They may need to establish policies regarding the use of funds and accounts. DC shared that with the capital plan, she has been referring to the Long-Range Plan (LRP) since it is the document mandated by the state. There are still open items on the LRP that have not been accomplished. These include the parking lot at the Main Library (number of spots and accessibility), unfinished space in the lower level of Main, the sprinkler system, and cracked concrete at Main. RL said the board will decide on an appropriate amount of money to raise from the taxpayers in the coming years to put in the capital fund. For the plan, RL suggests DC get estimates on the unfinished projects. He hopes to be able to present the library's status regarding the capital plan at the next board meeting, including the projects the library would like to do, what the fund situation looks like, and possibilities for replenishing them. To accomplish the committee should meet again before the board meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 11:58 a.m.

Submitted by Gina Chase