
**GREAT NECK LIBRARY
MINUTES OF THE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2025, AT 6:00 P.M.**

A regular meeting of the Great Neck Library Board of Trustees with an executive session was held on Tuesday, February 25, 2025, at the Main Library, 159 Bayview Avenue, New York 11023. The agenda is attached.

The following Trustees were present constituting a quorum:

Aliza Reicher – President
Rory Lancman – Secretary
Chayim Mahgerefteh, CPA – Treasurer
Brachah Goykadosh – Assistant Treasurer
Neal Hakimi, MD – Assistant Treasurer
Mimi Hu - Trustee

Also Present: Denise Corcoran – Director
Kathryn Baumgartner – Assistant Director
Steven Kashkin – Business Manager

Also Absent: Barry Smith, MD – Vice President

CALL TO ORDER

President Reicher called the meeting to order at 6:06 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

RESOLVED, that the Great Neck Library Board of Trustees enter Executive Session for legal and litigation matters.

VOTE: Yes – 5 (Reicher, Lancman, Mahgerefteh, Goykadosh, Hu)

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Trustee Hakimi arrived at 6:57 pm.

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

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

VOTE: Yes – 6 (Reicher, Lancman, Mahgerefteh, Goykadosh, Hakimi, Hu)

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

No action was taken in the executive session.

The board reconvened at 7:51 p.m.

MINUTES

Board Minutes

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

MOVED, that the Great Neck Library Board of Trustees approve the minutes of the January 21, 2025, board meeting as presented.

VOTE: Yes – 6 (Reicher, Lancman, Mahgerefteh, Goykadosh, Hakimi, Hu)

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

TREASURER/BUSINESS MANAGER REPORT

Upon motion by Trustee Mahgerefteh, seconded by Trustee Reicher, it was,

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

- a. February 25, 2025, Treasurer's Report;
- b. Warrant dated February 10, 2025, through February 16, 2025, which has been reviewed by the Treasurer, the sums set against their respective names, amounting in the aggregate to \$395,730.47.
- c. Payroll Warrants for pay dates January 9, and January 23, 2025 (in the amounts of \$173,590.31 and \$173,191.52 respectively) for a total of \$346,781.83.

VOTE: Yes – 6 (Reicher, Lancman, Mahgerefteh, Goykadosh, Hakimi, Hu)

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Business Manager, Steven Kashkin, summarized his report.

PAYROLL CHANGES

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

RESOLVED, that the Great Neck Library Board of Trustees accept the Payroll Changes report of January 17, through February 20, 2025, as presented, which has been reviewed by the Treasurer.

VOTE: Yes – 6 (Reicher, Lancman, Mahgerefteh, Goykadosh, Hakimi, Hu)

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

REPORTS

President's Report

President Reicher shared that they are making big strides toward forming a capital plan. The library is moving ahead with three major construction projects thanks to all the efforts of staff. Library programming is as robust as ever. Ms. Reicher is looking forward to lots of great things to come.

Director's Report

Director Corcoran summarized her report. Assistant Director Baumgartner discussed the NYS Annual Report. System Coordinator of Programming, Adam Hinz, spoke about the Oral History Project.

Committee Report

Trustee Lancman announced that the extension of Sunday hours was discussed at the Long Range Planning (LRP) meetings with the main issues being staffing and the cost. This will be explained in detail at the upcoming budget workshops. The capital plan was also discussed at the LRP meetings.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Proposed Policy Change – 3rd Read & Vote

Upon motion by Trustee Reicher, seconded by Trustee Hakimi, it was,

RESOLVED, that the Great Neck Library Board of Trustees adopt the following change to the Policy Manual.

- a) Add Section 200-80: Trustee Removal Procedures
- b) Add Section 1500-25: Nominating Committee Member Removal Procedures

VOTE: Yes – 6 (Reicher, Lancman, Mahgerefteh, Goykadosh, Hakimi, Hu)

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Trustee Reicher explained that these policies are in response to the lawsuits and already went through two reads in 2024. They were reviewed by library counsel.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Accept Board of Trustee Resignation

Upon motion by Trustee Reicher, seconded by Trustee Mahgerefteh, it was,

RESOLVED, WHEREAS, Trustee Dr. Barry Smith submitted a resignation from his position on the Board of Trustees dated February 24, 2025, citing increased family and work obligations,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of the Great Neck Library hereby accepts Dr. Smith's resignation, effective February 24, 2025.

VOTE: Yes – 6 (Reicher, Lancman, Mahgerefteh, Goykadosh, Hakimi, Hu)

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Trustee Mahgarafteh stated that Dr. Smith was passionate about serving the community and thanked him for his service. Trustee Lancman echoed these comments and added that Dr. Smith was reasonable, committed to the community, and contributed a lot to the board during his tenure. The trustees thanked Dr. Smith for his service and wished him well.

2. Election of Vice President

Aliza Reicher nominated Brachah Goykadosh. There were no other nominations.

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

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of the Great Neck Library elect Brachah Goykadosh as Vice President of the Board of Trustees for a one-year term ending January 2026.

VOTE: Yes – 6 (Reicher, Lancman, Mahgerefteh, Goykadosh, Hakimi, Hu)

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

3. Election of Assistant Treasurer

Aliza Reicher nominated Mimi Hu. There were no other nominations.

Upon motion by Trustee Reicher, seconded by Trustee Hakimi, it was, RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of the Great Neck Library elect Mimi Hu as Assistant Treasurer of the Board of Trustees for a one-year term ending January 2026.

VOTE: Yes – 6 (Reicher, Lancman, Mahgerefteh, Goykadosh, Hakimi, Hu)
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

4. Proposed Policy Change – 1st Read

- a) Add Section 300-45: Employee Grievance Policy

Trustee Goykadosh explained that this policy is in response to the anonymous employee complaint from last year. It sets a formal procedure to follow in the future.

5. 2025 Audit Engagement Letter

Upon motion by Trustee Goykadosh, seconded by Trustee Reicher, it was,

RESOLVED, that the Great Neck Library Board of Trustees authorize the President to execute the letter of engagement with Cullen & Danowski, LLP, dated January 13, 2025, for the performance of an audit of the library's financial statements, as well as, preparation of the Library's Federal Form 990, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025, at a cost not to exceed \$17,800.00 to be charged to the Audit Fees expense line in the General Fund.

VOTE: Yes – 6 (Reicher, Lancman, Mahgerefteh, Goykadosh, Hakimi, Hu)
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6. Allowance Authorization #1 for Main Library HVAC Modifications

Upon motion by Trustee Hakimi, seconded by Trustee Goykadosh, it was,

RESOLVED, that the Great Neck Library Board of Trustees approve Allowance Authorization #1 to increase the heat exchanger frame size and replace one restrictive control valve to reduce pressure drop for a more efficient operation of the HVAC of the Main Library in the amount of \$7,986.66 from SIBA Contracting Corp.; such funds to be deducted from the contract allowances.

VOTE: Yes – 6 (Reicher, Lancman, Mahgerefteh, Goykadosh, Hakimi, Hu)
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

7. Submittal of 990 Tax Return Form

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

RESOLVED, that the Great Neck Library Board of Trustees approve the submittal of the Great Neck Library 990 tax return by our auditors Cullen & Danowski for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024, to the Internal Revenue Service (IRS).

VOTE: Yes – 6 (Reicher, Lancman, Mahgerefteh, Goykadosh, Hakimi, Hu)
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

8. Solicit Bids from NYS Vehicle Marketplace

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

RESOLVED, that the Great Neck Library Board of Trustees authorize the solicitation of bids from NYS Vehicle Marketplace for a new van.

VOTE: Yes – 6 (Reicher, Lancman, Mahgerefteh, Goykadosh, Hakimi, Hu)

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9. Posting for STEM Librarian SR II

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

RESOLVED, that the Great Neck Library Board of Trustees authorize the posting of the STEM Librarian SR II position on February 26, 2025.

VOTE: Yes – 6 (Reicher, Lancman, Mahgerefteh, Goykadosh, Hakimi, Hu)

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

10. Personnel

Upon motion by Trustee Mahgerefteh, seconded by Trustee Goykadosh, it was,

RESOLVED, that the Great Neck Library Board of Trustees approve personnel item 1a on the attached Personnel Report.

VOTE: Yes – 6 (Reicher, Lancman, Mahgerefteh, Goykadosh, Hakimi, Hu)

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

10. Discussion: Programming

Trustee Reicher acknowledged the staff's efforts at making library programming so amazing. There have been several suggestions by trustees on particular programs they would like to see. Ms. Reicher reminded everyone that trustees do not make programming decisions. Trustees can make suggestions, just like any library patron can, but ultimately the decision of what programs go on at the library is up to staff. The board discussed several programming ideas.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

March 10, 2025 (Monday) – Budget Workshop (Main Library)

March 18, 2025 – Board Meeting (Station Branch Library)

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 p.m. on a motion by Trustee Reicher and seconded by Trustee Mahgerefteh.

Respectfully submitted,

Rory Lancman
Secretary, Board of Trustees