
**GREAT NECK LIBRARY
MINUTES OF THE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
TUESDAY, MAY 13, 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, May 13, 2025, at the Main Library, 159 Bayview Avenue, Great Neck, New York 11023. The agenda is attached.

The following Trustees were present constituting a quorum:

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

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

CALL TO ORDER

President Reicher called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

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

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

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

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

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

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

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

No action was taken in the executive session.

The board reconvened at 7:40 p.m.

President Reicher announced that the board interviewed four exceptional candidates to fill their current vacancy, but has not yet reached a decision on how to fill it.

MINUTES

Board Minutes

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

MOVED, that the Great Neck Library Board of Trustees approve the minutes of the April 22, 2025, board meeting, as presented..

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

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

TREASURER/BUSINESS MANAGER REPORT

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

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

- a. May 13, 2025, Treasurer's Report;
- b. Warrant dated May 2, 2025, through May 11, 2025, which has been reviewed by the Treasurer, the sums set against their respective names, amounting in the aggregate to \$399,705.16.
- c. Payroll Warrants for pay dates April 3, 2025, and April 17, 2025 (in the amounts of \$179,829.16 and \$177,134.81, respectively) for a total of \$356,963.97.

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

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

PAYROLL CHANGES

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

RESOLVED, that the Great Neck Library Board of Trustees accept the Payroll Changes report of April 17, 2025, through May 8, 2025, as presented, which has been reviewed by the Treasurer.

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

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

REPORTS

President's Report

President Reicher reported that the union that represents the two dismissed library employees has decided to withdraw their grievances against the library.

Director's Report

Director Denise Corcoran summarized her report, which is attached to the minutes.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Proposed Policy Change – 1st Read

- Add Section 300-75: Workplace Fraternization

2. Security Cameras

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

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees authorize the purchase of new cameras and additional card key access swipes with A+ Technology and Security in the amount of \$135,482.58 to be charged to the Automated Library Fund.

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

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

3. Deduct Change Order #1 for Main Library Retaining Wall

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

RESOLVED, that the Great Neck Library Board of Trustees approve (deduct/credit) change order #1 for the design changes to the concrete retaining wall of the Main Library in the amount of \$7,324.24 from PAV-LAK Contracting, Inc. As a result, the contract amount is reduced to \$543,875.76.

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

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

4. Budget Transfer

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

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees authorize the transfer of \$1.3 million from the Landscaping fund to the Main Building and Special Services Fund to be used for the MEP modifications of the HVAC and roof replacement at the Main Library.

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

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

5. Personnel

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

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

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

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6. Change Order #2R to Plant Trees at Main

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

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees approve change order #2R to plant three trees along the retaining wall of the Main Library for \$6,259.05 from PAV-LAK Contracting, Inc., to be charged to the Main Building and Special Services Fund.

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

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

June 17, 2025 – Board Meeting (Station Branch Library)

EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

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

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

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

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

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

No action was taken in the executive session.

The board reconvened at 8:50 p.m.

STATEMENT FROM THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Recently the Board of Trustees of the Great Neck Library approved the termination of two Levels employees. In the interest of honoring the trust which our community places in the Library, we are providing the following information to clarify our decision.

The Library believes the actions of the employees warranted immediate termination. These actions included:

- On multiple occasions, the employees stayed up to 4 hours past closing in the Levels space. At some points, the employees appeared to be playing video games. At other points, the lights were shut off by the employees, and no video games were being played. At no point were the employees given permission by Library administration to remain in Levels past closing time (beyond making up de minimis time when the employees may have arrived late).
- On multiple nights when the employees stayed past closing time, the Library building was not properly alarmed after they exited.
- Contrary to the Library's rules, on multiple occasions, one of the employees entered Levels on days that they were not scheduled to work, after Levels was closed, and remained there with the other employee for multiple hours.

- On multiple occasions, emails were sent from one of the terminated employees to Levels teens and parents, after their termination date and when they had no authorized direct access to this Library information.

After an investigation of the facts, the Great Neck Library Staff Association, which represents the employees, withdrew the grievances related to the employees' terminations.

The Library cherishes its Levels program. The Board of Trustees unanimously voted in favor of approving the upcoming 2025/2026 Library Budget, which includes full funding for Levels. Levels is, and will continue to be, a unique and permanent part of the Great Neck Library. We share the goal of our teens, their parents, and others that Levels continue to serve as an avenue for our teens to gather and express themselves creatively.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:51 p.m. on a motion by Trustee Reicher and seconded by Trustee Lancman.

Respectfully submitted,

Rory Lancman
Secretary, Board of Trustees