



Minutes of the Gloversville Public Library Board of Trustees Meeting November 15, 2022

The Gloversville Public Library Board of Trustees held its regular meeting on November 15, 2022. Present were President Charles “Ren” Reed, Vice President Merry Dunn-Brown, Treasurer Michael Frank, Secretary Christian W. Rohrs, Library Director Valerie Acklin, Christine Pesses, Susan Shrader, Richard “Dick” Carlson, Gregory Niforos, and Caren Pepper.

Mr. Reed called the meeting to order at 6:01 PM.

Mr. Reed asked if there was any public comment. There was none.

Mr. Reed asked for a motion to accept the October meeting minutes. Mr. Mazur made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Pesses. Mr. Reed asked if there was any discussion. Ms. Pepper noted there are missing words in the minutes. The Board approved the minutes with a vote of “aye.”

Mr. Frank delivered his Treasurer’s Report. Mrs. Shrader asked a question regarding the dates. Mr. Reed asked for a motion to approve the Treasurer’s report. Mr. Rohrs made motion, seconded by Mr. Carlson. The Board approved with a vote of “aye.”

Mr. Frank distributed the Warrants List. Mr. Reed asked if there were any questions regarding the Warrant list. Mr. Niforos made a motion, seconded by Ms. Pepper. Mr. Reed asked if there were any questions. Hearing none, the Board approved with a vote of “aye”.

Mr. Niforos delivered the Budget and Finance Report. The committee met last week. From his report, the following motions were passed:

- Motion to authorize Michael Frank to invest through Treasury Direct from the General Fund in allowable investment vehicles. Mr. Mazur made a motion, seconded by Ms. Pepper. Mr. Reed clarified that income made from this investment would return to the General Fund. The motion passed with a vote of “aye” from the Board.
- Motion to authorize a resolution to override the tax cap for the 2023-2024 fiscal year. Mr. Niforos made the motion, seconded by Mrs. Pesses. Mr. Reed asked if there were any questions. Ms. Pepper asked for some clarification. Mr. Reed asked if there were any other questions. Hearing none, the Board approved with a vote of “aye.”

Mr. Frank delivered a report on behalf of the Foundation.

Mr. Reed delivered the Friends of the Library Report on behalf of Mrs. Jean La Porta. He reminded board members to renew their Friends’ membership.

Mr. Reed noted there was no President’s Report. Mr. Reed received a thank you note from Nancy Krawczeski and a thank you note from the Friends for the pizza party. Mr. Reed asked if there were any questions. There were none.

Valerie Acklin
Library Director

2022-2023
Board of Trustees

Merry Dunn Brown

Richard Carlson

John Mazur

Greg Niforos

Caren Pepper

Christine Pesses

Charles Reed

Christian Rohrs

Susan Shrader

Mr. Carlson delivered the Building and Grounds Report. He discussed the two building projects, including the parking lot, and the snow removal contract. Ms. Acklin also noted that the upper level bathroom locks will be changed due to an unauthorized person gaining access to the bathroom key.

Mrs. Pesses delivered the Local History Room Report. The committee met with Thomas Ruller. She thanks Mr. Reed for getting him to be a participant in our Local History Room. They discussed the approach for the year and, most importantly, work on the “environment” of the room, such as the temperature of the room, the lighting, etc. Moving forward, the room should be kept at 65 degrees Fahrenheit at all times. Additionally, room darkening shades will be necessary to preserve the artifacts in the room.

Ms. Dunn-Brown delivered the Outreach Committee Report. She made mention of the pizza party and the upcoming Soroptomist’s Craft Fair. Ms. Acklin also noted that the GPL is applying for an Advocacy Grant with the intention of purchasing a multi-function copier for advocacy and outreach purposes throughout the year.

Mrs. Shrader delivered the Personnel Committee report. She noted they had not met; however, Ms. Acklin reported upon new hires and upcoming Library Clerk exams.

Mr. Reed delivered the Plan of Service ad hoc Committee report. The following message had been delivered from the Friends: “Last evening, five leaders of the Friends of the GPL met with Mr. Wade Abbott and Mr. Reed at the GPL to participate in a Plan of Service community engagement workshop.”

Mrs. Pesses delivered the Policy Committee Report. The following motions were made:

- Motion to accept the Ethics Policy. Mr. Mazur made the motion, seconded by Mr. Rohrs. The board approved with “aye.”

After discussion of the Behavior and Environment Policy, a few typographical errors were corrected.

Ms. Pepper noted there had not been a Program Committee meeting; however, a meeting is planned for November 30 at 12:00 Noon. Additionally, Ms. Acklin noted that staff is hard at work on future programs, including summer reading.

Mr. Mazur reported on behalf of the Public Relations Committee; however, the next meeting will be November 22 at 4:00 PM.

Ms. Acklin delivered the Library Director’s Report. She noted the progress with the new website, engagement on social media, and an increase in program attendance.

Mr. Reed asked if there was any Old Business. He requests the Board’s support in forming an ad hoc committee in searching for a new GPL lawyer. He requested Mrs. Shrader and Mr. Mazur in joining him on this search committee and to draw up the necessary Request for Proposal.

Mr. Reed asked if there was any New Business. Ms. Acklin delivered an update on an incident at the GPL.

At 7:26 Mr. Niforos made a motion to enter Executive Session for purposes of discussing particular personnel issues. Mr. Mazur seconded the motion. The Board approved with "aye."

At 7:35 PM, Mr. Reed asked for a motion to leave Executive Session. Mrs. Shrader made a motion, seconded by Ms. Dunn-Brown. The Board approved with "aye."

Upon leaving Executive Session, Ms. Acklin requested a motion to provisionally hire Madison Smrtic as a part-time Library Clerk at a rate of \$14.50 per hour. Mrs. Pesses made a motion, seconded by Mr. Carlson. Mr. Reed asked if there were any questions. Hearing none, the Board approved the motion with a vote of "aye."

At 7:36 PM, Mr. Reed requested a motion to adjourn. Mr. Mazur made the motion, seconded by Ms. Dunn-Brown. The board approved with "aye."

Respectfully submitted,

Christian W. Rohrs, Secretary