



## Minutes of the Groversville Public Library Board of Trustees Meeting December 19, 2023

The Groversville Public Library Board of Trustees held its regular meeting on December 19, 2023. Present were President Gregory Niforos, Vice-President Merry Dunn-Brown, Library Director Valerie Acklin, Vice President of Finance, Charles Reed, Treasurer Michael Frank, Caren Pepper, Christine Pesses, Richard Carlson, and Charlotte Will.

Mr. Niforos called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

Mr. Niforos opened the meeting by leading the Trustees in the Pledge to the Flag.

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

Mr. Frank administered the Oath of Office to new Library Trustee, Charlotte Will.

Mr. Niforos asked for a motion to accept the Minutes of the November 21, 2023 meeting of the Trustees. After minor corrections were noted, Mrs. Pesses made a motion, seconded by Ms. Pepper to accept the minutes of the meetings as presented. The board approved this motion with a vote of "aye".

Mr. Frank delivered his Treasurer's Report for November 2023. Mr. Niforos asked for a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report. Mr. Reed made a motion, seconded by Ms. Dunn-Brown. The motion carried with a vote of "aye".

Mr. Frank distributed the Warrants List for December 2023. Mr. Niforos asked for a motion to accept the Warrants list. Mr. Carlson made a motion, seconded by Ms. Dunn-Brown to accept the Warrant List and approve payment of the warrants. The motion carried with a vote of "aye".

Mr. Reed delivered the Budget and Finance report. He indicated that the Committee had met for a second time and had made some modifications from the original presentation of the fiscal year 2024-2025 budget projections. Mr. Reed explained the three different scenarios for the tax levy for next year that he had prepared and asked the Trustees to give each some thought before the January 2024 meeting.

Mr. Frank delivered a report on behalf of the Foundation. He noted that the Foundation Board had met on December 6, 2023 at 3 PM at the Library for their Annual Meeting and that a fundraiser mailing was being planned for February 2024.

Mr. Niforos gave the Friends' Report, on behalf of President Jean LaPorta and informed the Trustees that Ms. LaPorta wished to thank everyone who was instrumental in her receiving the MVLS Award.

In his President's Report, Mr. Niforos thanked Mrs. Pesses for her 19 years of dedication to the Library as a Trustee and noted that we would be again looking for a new Trustee to fill out her term of office.

Valerie Acklin  
Library Director

2023-2024  
Board of Trustees

Merry Dunn Brown

Richard Carlson

John Mazur

Greg Niforos

Caren Pepper

Christine Pesses

Charles Reed

Susan Shrader

Charlotte Will

Mr. Carlson noted that the parking lot project was proceeding nicely and Phase 1 was nearing completion. Mr. Carlson reviewed other items in his Building and Grounds report.

There was no Local History Room Committee Report.

Ms. Dunn-Brown reported on behalf of the Outreach Committee. She noted that the Committee is continuing to circulate Library flyers and other information promoting the Library.

Ms. Acklin informed the Trustees that she has hired a part time custodian to hopefully start in early January 2024.

Mr. Reed reviewed the progress of the Plan of Service Committee. Mr. Reed noted that the Committee had met on December 18, 2023 and that they would be meeting again during the second week of January 2024 and that they would hopefully have a draft Plan of Service to present at the January 2024 trustee's meeting.

Mr. Niforos asked Merry Dunn-Brown and Charlotte Will if they would be willing to be Co-chairs of the Policy Committee. They both agreed.

Mr. Niforos informed the Trustees that the second reading of the Bylaws had been sent out for review and any questions. Mrs. Pesses made a motion, seconded by Ms. Pepper, to approve the bylaw changes as presented. This was approved with a vote of "Aye".

Ms. Pepper noted that there was no Program Committee report but that the Committee would be meeting in January 2024.

Mr. Niforos noted that there was no Public Relations report.

Mr. Niforos informed the Trustees that the search committee would need to meet after the first of the year to begin the search process for a replacement for Mrs. Pesses.

Ms. Acklin informed the Trustees that her Director's Report was in the Board package.

Mr. Niforos asked if there was Old Business. Ms. Acklin informed the Trustees that she was following up on the possibilities of the Library becoming an early voting place but that she felt that it probably would not work in the overall scheme of Library hours and space.

Mr. Niforos asked if there was any new business. Mr. Reed told the Board that he was willing to replace Mrs. Pesses as a liaison from the Library Board to the Foundation Board. Ms. Acklin asked the Trustees if the Summer Hours for the Library could be set to start on Memorial Day weekend and end on Labor Day weekend instead of stated dates. Mr. Reed made a motion, seconded by Ms. Dunn-Brown to approve this recommendation. This was approved by a vote by all of "aye".

Respectfully submitted,

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Susan Shrader, Secretary