



Minutes of the Groversville Public Library Board of Trustees Meeting November 21, 2023

The Groversville Public Library Board of Trustees held its regular meeting on November 21, 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, Susan Shrader, Richard Carlson, and John Mazur.

Mr. Niforos called the meeting to order at 6:02 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. Niforos asked for a motion to accept the Regular Meeting Minutes of the October 17, 2023 meeting of the Trustees. After minor corrections were noted, Ms. Dunn-Brown 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 October 2023. Mr. Niforos asked for a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report. Mr. Mazur made a motion, seconded by Mr. Reed. The motion carried with a vote of "aye".

Mr. Frank distributed the Warrants List for November 2023. Mr. Niforos asked for a motion to accept the Warrants list. Mr. Reed 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 and had prepared a preliminary budget for the fiscal year 2024-2025 but that the Committee was planning another meeting prior to the December Trustees meeting to make some additional adjustments prior to presentation to the Board.

Ms. Acklin informed the Trustees that a motion needed to be passed to override the New York State Tax Cap if needed. Ms. Shrader made a motion, seconded by Mr. Reed and approved all voting "aye" to override the Tax Cap if necessary.

Mr. Frank delivered a report on behalf of the Foundation. He noted that the Foundation Board would be meeting on December 6, 2023 at 3 PM at the Library for their Annual Meeting.

Mr. Niforos highlighted several items in the Friends of the Library Report. Mr. Niforos noted that Ms. LaPorta's report is contained in the Board packet.

In his President's Report, Mr. Niforos noted that he was asking for all committee reports to be in to Valerie by the second Thursday of the month in order for her to have adequate time to put the Board Packet for the month together. Mr. Niforos also noted that he was expecting Mrs. Pesses to resign from the Board at the January 2024 meeting.

Mr. Carlson noted that the parking lot project was proceeding nicely and nearing completion. Mr. Carlson noted that we had received a quote from Jim Esper for snow removal for the 2023-2024 winter season. After discussion, Mr. Reed made a motion to go with the pay per snow removal price. This motion was seconded by Mr. Mazur and approved all voting "aye". Mr. Carlson also informed the Trustees that we needed to go out to "Competitive Bidding" for the Dome Project and that this

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

will increase our cost with Butler Rowland Mays Architects, LLP from \$7,500 to \$35,000. Mr. Carlson made a motion, seconded by Ms. Shrader, to approve the increase. This was approved by all voting "aye".

There was no Local History Room Committee Report.

Ms. Dunn-Brown reported on behalf of the Outreach Committee. She noted that we had a presence at the Soroptomist program and handed out flyers, etc to many attendees.

Ms. Acklin informed the Trustees that she is working on needed updates to the Employee Handbook.

Mr. Reed reviewed the progress of the Plan of Service Committee. Mr. Reed asked the various Committee Chairpersons to submit their goals soon so that Wade Abbott would have something for the Trustees to approve at the January 2024 meeting.

Mr. Niforos informed the Trustees that the first reading of the Bylaws had been sent out for review and questions. This will be reviewed with any suggested changes or corrections at the December meeting.

Ms. Pepper noted that there was no Program Committee report.

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

Mr. Niforos informed the Trustees that the search committee had met with the one person that had submitted an application to join the Board of Trustees to replace Christian Rohrs, who had resigned. Mr. Niforos presented Charlotte Will as a candidate for approval to join the Board of Trustees. Ms. Pepper made a motion, seconded by Mr. Mazur, to approve Charlotte Will as a new Board member. This was approved all voting "aye".

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

Mr. Niforos asked if there was any Old Business. Hearing none, Mr. Niforos asked if there was any new business. Ms. Acklin asked the Trustees to think about the possibilities of the Library becoming an early voting location. Ms. Acklin also asked the Trustees to consider a possible charging station on our premise for electric vehicle recharging.

Ms. Acklin informed the Trustees that they needed to go into Executive Session to discuss a personnel issue. At 7:25 PM Mr. Reed made a motion to go into Executive Session. This motion was seconded by Ms. Dunn-Brown and approved, all voting "aye".

At 7:30 PM Ms. Dunn-Brown made a motion to leave Executive Session. This was seconded by Mr. Carlson and approved by all voting "aye".

At 7:33 PM, Mr. Mazur made a motion to hire R. Cline as a Custodial Worker, for 18 hours per week at an hourly wage of \$15.25/hour, which was seconded by Mrs. Shrader. The motion was unanimously approved, with all voting "aye".

At 7:35 PM Mrs. Shrader made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Mazur. The motion carried with a vote of "aye".

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Shrader, Secretary