



## Minutes of the Gloversville Public Library Board of Trustees Meeting January 23, 2023

The Gloversville Public Library Board of Trustees held its regular meeting on January 23, 2024. 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, John Mazur, 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. Niforos asked for a motion to accept the Regular Meeting Minutes of the December 19, 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 December 2023. Mr. Niforos asked for a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report. Mr. Carlson made a motion, seconded by Ms. Will. The motion carried with a vote of "aye".

Mr. Frank distributed the Warrants List for January 2024. Mr. Niforos asked for a motion to accept the Warrants list. Mr. Mazur made a motion, seconded by Ms. Pepper 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 he and Mr. Mazur would be meeting to discuss the overall presentation regarding the tax levy vote. Mr. Reed explained the need to review and approve one of the three scenarios for the tax levy for next year that he had prepared and asked the Trustees to give each some thought before the February 2024 meeting.

Ms. Acklin presented a Resolution for acceptance of a grant from the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation for \$363,259.00. (Exhibit A) Mr. Reed made a motion, seconded by Mr. Carlson, to approve accepting the noted grant funding. This was approved with all voting "Aye".

Mr. Frank informed the Trustees that the Foundation had not met since the last meeting of the Trustees but that a Finance Committee meeting was scheduled for tomorrow with John Washburn from Wells Fargo, the Foundation's investment advisor. Mr. Frank also informed the Trustees that a fundraiser letter would be mailed out in February requesting funds for the dome repairs.

Mr. Niforos reviewed Ms. LaPorta's Friends report.

Mr. Niforos said that he had nothing to report in his President's report but that he would like all the Trustees to review their committee assignments.

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 Building and Grounds Committee had not met but that Ms. Madonna had prepared a summary of the 2 projects currently in various phases of completion. Mr. Carlson also noted that we were in the process of getting the backup battery for the elevator replaced so that it would pass inspection.

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. Shrader informed the Trustees that the Employee Handbook was in draft form and that she was working on a time line for the Director's evaluation.

Ms. Acklin informed the Trustee that Elizabeth Kurz Michel, the children's room librarian, had left our staff on January 16, 2024 and that she is currently covering the position. Ms. Acklin also informed the Trustees that Kim Collar has been out since October and that her FMLA time is running out and she may need to go on disability. Lex Lanza is also working from home currently and her status is currently not known as far as returning.

Mr. Reed reviewed the progress of the Plan of Service Committee. Mr. Reed noted that the Committee would be meeting again in early February with Wade Abbott and that they would have a draft Plan for the February Trustees meeting.

Ms. Will informed the Trustees that she had received a list of the various library policies and that 3 were coming up for review and that some changes were going to be made to the Sexual Harassment Policy.

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

Mr. Mazur noted that the most recent issue of Cover to Cover was very nice and quite informative with all that is going on at the Library.

Mr. Niforos informed the Trustees that no interest had been shown yet as far as replacing Ms. Pesses on the Board of Trustees.

Ms. Acklin informed the Trustees that her Director's Report was in the Board package and that she had been working with Ms. Madonna on the election calendar.

Ms. Acklin informed the Trustees that the Librarians' Reports were in the packet and that training needs to be done as far as dealing with the homeless in the Library Building.

Mr. Niforos asked if there was any Old Business. Mr. Mazur asked about the status of the Free Food Fridge. Ms. Acklin said that this would be dealt with after the winter season passes.

Mr. Niforos asked if there was any new business. Ms. Acklin informed the Trustees that our MVLS/JA fees were going up 3.5% for 2024 to \$1042.10 per month.

Mr. Reed made a motion, seconded by Ms. Dunn-Brown, to adjourn the meeting at 7:35 PM. This was approved with a vote of all "Aye".

Respectfully submitted,

---

Susan Shrader, Secretary