



Minutes of the Gloversville Public Library Board of Trustees Meeting September 17, 2024 at 6 PM

The Gloversville Public Library Board of Trustees held its regular meeting on Tuesday, September 17, 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; Charlotte Will; and John Federman. Also present was recording secretary, Sally Ostrander.

Mr. Niforos called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

There were no public comments.

Mr. Niforos asked for a motion to accept the Regular Meeting Minutes of August 20, 2024. Ms. Pepper made a motion, seconded by Mr. Reed to accept the minutes with the change noted. The minutes were approved with a unanimous vote of "aye."

Mr. Frank delivered the Treasurer's Report. Mr. Frank explained the following items on the income page: a grant from the Library Foundation, receipt of State Aid, and the balance of the grant from the NYS Health Department. He noted that grants would be tracked differently in the future. Mr. Reed made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report, Ms. Will seconded the motion. The Board approved the motion with a vote of "aye".

Mr. Frank distributed the Warrants List. After allowing time for Board members to review and discuss various items on the Warrant list, Mr. Niforos asked for a motion to accept the Warrant list. Ms. Dunn-Brown made a motion to accept, seconded by Ms. Shrader. The Board approved this motion with a vote of "aye."

Mr. Reed delivered the Budget and Finance Committee report. He presented the amended 2024-2025 operating budget. Some income items were reduced, and several expense items were also reduced.

Mr. Frank stated there was no Foundation Report.

Mr. Niforos presented the Friend's Report.

Mr. Niforos stated there was no President's Report.

Ms. Acklin presented the Building and Grounds Committee report.

Mr. Reed stated there was no Local History Room Committee Report.

Ms. Dunn-Brown delivered the Outreach Committee Report. Ms. Dunn-Brown stated that she and Ms. Will went to the Office of the Aging Picnic where they handed out written materials to 100 people and talked to about 100 more.

Ms. Shrader presented the Personnel Committee Report. She stated that a meeting would be set up in September to discuss staffing and the employee handbook.

Mr. Federman presented the Policy Committee Report. He asked Ms. Acklin for a copy of the policies that need to be revised so he could review them.

Ms. Pepper stated that there was no report from the Program Committee.

There was no Public Relations Committee report from Ms. Will.

Valerie Acklin
Library Director

2024-2025
Board of Trustees

Merry Dunn Brown

Richard Carlson

Jonathan Federman

John Mazur

Greg Niforos

Caren Pepper

Christine Pesses

Charles Reed

Susan Shrader

Charlotte Will

Mr. Federman presented the report from the Redistricting Ad Hoc Committee. He said he needs to reach out to the State to find out the steps and projected timeline for redistricting. He expects to have more information about this by the next Board meeting.

Mr. Niforos presented the Trustee Ad Hoc Search Committee. He has reached out to some people that had previously shown an interest in filling the vacant Board position. Interested people should contact Mr. Niforos by email.

Ms. Acklin presented the Library Director's Report. She discussed how it has been necessary to sometimes open late or close early due to a lack of staffing. Since staffing is our most valuable asset, she is exploring options for offering competitive wages to retain current staff and attract new staff.

Mr. Niforos presented the Librarians' Report. Ms. Madonna is working on a \$5,000 grant request from the John Henry Eldred Jr. Foundation to support collection development, programming and equipment for Youth Services

Mr. Niforos asked for old business. Mr. Frank stated that the Foundation approved the Board's consultant grant to pay the consultant's fee. Mr. Niforos asked Board members to let him know of anyone who may want to work with him and Ms. Acklin on the Strategic Committee to assist in fundraising, getting out the vote, and delivering our message to the public letting them know the essential services that the Library offers.

For new business, Ms. Acklin asked for approval from the Board to let a local nonprofit organization use the Carnegie room for training.

At 7:56 a motion was made by Ms. Shrader and seconded by Ms. Dunn-Brown to go into executive session. The motion was approved with a vote of "aye."

At 8:07, Ms. Dunn-Brown made a motion to leave executive session, which was seconded by Mr. Pepper. The motion was approved with a vote of "aye."

Immediately after the executive session, at 8:07 PM, Mr. Niforos asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Reed made a motion, seconded by Mr. Federman, to adjourn. This was approved by a unanimous vote of "aye".

Respectfully submitted,

Sally Ostrander, Recording Secretary