



Minutes of the Gloversville Public Library Board of Trustees Special Meeting February 4, 2025 at 6 PM

The Gloversville Public Library Board of Trustees called a Special Board meeting on Tuesday, February 4, 2025. Present were President, Gregory Niforos; Vice-President, Merry Dunn-Brown; Charles Reed, Vice-President of Finance; Library Director, Valerie Acklin; and Trustees: Richard Carlson, John Federman, Caren Pepper, and Charlotte Will. Also present was recording secretary, Sally Ostrander.

Valerie Acklin
Library Director

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

Mr. Niforos opened the meeting discussing the Trustee candidate who was recently interviewed. The candidate withdrew his name from consideration, so the search for a new Trustee continues. The candidate must be a resident of the Gloversville School District and be 18 years of age. It was noted that the Board Committees are "open committees" which allow non-board members to attend committee meetings, participate, and assist the committee with their work.

Ms. Acklin stated that she has had meetings, is gathering data, and requesting quotes from three companies regarding HVAC maintenance, repairs, inspections, testing, and software automation contracts. Ms. Acklin also explained that there is a leak in the boiler room that may be the result of a frozen roof drain. Repairs are being scheduled.

A motion was made by Ms. Dunn-Brown and seconded by Mr. Carlson to move Item #3 on the agenda to the end of the meeting. The Board approved this motion with a vote of "aye."

The atrium dome construction/repair timeline was discussed. Ms. Acklin stated that the review of bid documents has not yet been completed and returned to the Library. Also, the Library has events scheduled for this spring and the work on the atrium will temporarily compromise safety within the Library. Therefore, the expected start date of the atrium project will be moved to the summer. It is expected that the work will be completed by fall.

Mr. Carlson stated that the Building and Grounds Committee has been rescheduled for Friday, February 7.

Mr. Reed stated that the Budget and Finance Committee is working on a draft of a contingency budget.

Ms. Acklin stated that recent federal Executive Orders may impact the Library. The freezing of federal grants may affect us, as well. Ms. Acklin will contact our Attorney to discuss our legal responsibilities and how these situations should be handled, followed up with staff training if appropriate.

2023-2024
Board of Trustees

Merry Dunn Brown

Richard Carlson

Jonathan Federman

John Mazur

Greg Niforos

Caren Pepper

Christine Pesses

Charles Reed

Susan Shrader

Charlotte Will

Ms. Acklin spoke with the attorney about the legal aspects of exploring moving our vote to coincide with the Gloversville Enlarged School District. The Attorney prepared an "Exploratory Resolution" which authorizes the Board to have Ms. Acklin meet with the School District and discuss all matters pertaining to this topic. She hopes to report back at next month's Board meeting. The Library plans to notify the School Board of their decision no later than March 1, 2025.

A motion was made by Mr. Reed and seconded by Ms. Will to authorize Ms. Acklin to accept the Resolution as written. The motion was approved with a vote of "aye."

At 7:01 PM a motion was made to go into executive session by Ms. Dunn-Brown and seconded by Mr. Carlson. The motion was approved with a vote of "aye." The motion to come out of executive session was made at 7:05 by Mr. Carlson and seconded by Ms. Pepper. The motion was approved with a vote of "aye."

When the regular session resumed, a motion was made by Mr. Reed and seconded by Ms. Will to approve a leave of absence for George Emden from the position of Custodial Worker. The motion was approved with a vote of "aye."

A motion was made by Ms. Pepper to adjourn the meeting at 7:10 PM and seconded by Ms. Carlson. The motion was approved with a vote of "aye."

The next Board meeting will be held at 6 PM on February 18, 2025.

Respectfully submitted,

Sally Ostrander, Recording Secretary