



Minutes of the Gloversville Public Library Board of Trustees Meeting January 21, 2025 at 6 PM

The Gloversville Public Library Board of Trustees held its regular meeting on Tuesday, January 21, 2025. Present were President, Gregory Niforos; Vice-President, Merry Dunn-Brown; Library Director, Valerie Acklin; Treasurer, Michael Frank; and Trustees: Richard Carlson, John Federman, Caren Pepper, and Charlotte Will. Also present was recording secretary, Sally Ostrander.

Mr. Niforos called the meeting to order at 6:01 PM.

Mr. Niforos asked for a motion to accept the minutes from the Board meeting of December 17, 2024. Mr. Carlson made a motion to accept the minutes, seconded by Mr. Federman. The minutes were approved with a unanimous vote of "aye."

Mr. Frank delivered the Treasurer's Report. Ms. Pepper made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report; seconded by Mr. Carlson. The Board approved the motion with a vote of "aye."

Mr. Frank distributed the Warrants List. Time was allowed for Board members to review and discuss various items on the Warrant list. Ms. Will made a motion to accept, seconded by Ms. Pepper. The Board approved this motion with a vote of "aye."

Ms. Acklin delivered the Budget and Finance Committee report. The proposed budget and tax levy will be voted on at the February Board meeting.

Mr. Frank stated there was no Foundation Report.

Mr. Niforos presented the Friends' Report on behalf of Ms. LaPorta. The Friends' annual Pie Sale orders will be taken from February 18 to March 17, with pie pick-up on April 4. The annual Spaghetti Dinner fundraiser is March 19.

Mr. Niforos presented the President's Report. He reminded Board members that Advocacy Day is February 5 in Albany. Attendees can meet with State Legislators to advocate for more library support from the State.

Mr. Carlson presented the Buildings and Grounds Report. Grant reimbursements for the auxiliary parking lot, documentation and plans for the atrium dome project, as well as HVAC contracts and services were discussed.

Ms. Dunn-Brown delivered the Outreach Committee report. She stated that a meeting was planned for Thursday to discuss ways they could assist in getting the Library's message out to the public about the budget vote.

Ms. Acklin presented the Personnel Committee Report. She read a letter she received from a patron which praising Library Clerk Shari Peto work in the Local History Room. Ms. Acklin also stated that she received letters from Civil Service approving the promotion of Nicole Hauser to Assistant Director, Barbara Madonna to Librarian II, and the provisional appointment of George Emden to Senior Custodian.

Mr. Federman stated there was no Policy Committee.

Valerie Acklin
Library Director

2024-2025
Board of Trustees

Merry Dunn Brown

Richard Carlson

Jonathan Federman

Greg Niforos

Caren Pepper

Charles Reed

Susan Shrader

Charlotte Will

Ms. Pepper presented the Program Committee Report. She asked Ms. Acklin to explain the new room reservation platform.

Ms. Will stated there was no Public Relations Committee Report.

Mr. Federman stated there was nothing to report from the Redistricting Ad Hoc Committee. Mr. Niforos stated that the hope is for this committee to become a standing committee, with a name change to Sustainable Growth Committee.

Mr. Niforos stated plans for the Trustee Search Ad Hoc Committee to also become a standing committee, with a name change to Board Development Committee. The Committee has been contacted by someone interested in becoming a Trustee. Mr. Niforos will contact him and set up an interview with the Committee.

Ms. Acklin presented the Librarians' and Director's Report. In her report, she stated that Madison Smrtic, one of our Library Assistants, submitted a report to her about social media platforms and the benefits of purchasing a social media management software tool for the Library.

Mr. Niforos asked if there was old business to discuss. Mr. Federman asked if there was an increase in the number of homeless visiting the Library because there is no code blue shelter in Gloversville. Ms. Acklin stated that we have not seen a noticeable change.

Mr. Niforos asked for new business. Ms. Dunn-Brown stated that the Board will provide the Library staff with lunch at an upcoming staff meeting. Ms. Acklin asked for the Board's approval to submit an article and picture for the upcoming edition of "Portraits 2025" published by *The Leader-Herald*. It was also agreed that the Library would support the Gloversville Little League this year by having our logo on a field sign. Ms. Acklin also read a portion of a letter she received from the office of New York State Senator Mark Walczyk, written to Governor Hochul, supporting the Gloversville Public Library specifically and public libraries in general.

A motion was made by Mr. Carlson to adjourn the meeting at 7:36 PM and seconded by Ms. Will. 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