

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
GLEN ROCK PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
Thursday, July 13, 2023 at 7:00 pm**

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order by President Rachel Feinmark at 7:07 pm in the Library

Board Members:

|   |         |
|---|---------|
| President: Rachel Feinmark                | present |
| Vice-President: Matt Jacobs               | absent  |
| Treasurer: Dan Lesso                      | present |
| Secretary: Kathleen Walter                | present |
| Mayor's Alternate: Jill Orlich            | absent  |
| Superintendent's Alternate: Jamie Britton | present |
| Trustee: Christa Folco                    | present |
| Trustee: Jeff Schlecht                    | absent  |
| Trustee: Maggie Jacoby                    | present |

Ex-Officio Members:

|  |                  |
|--|------------------|
| Interim Director: Lisa Tomaselli               | present via Zoom |
| Friends of the Library Co-Chair: Ludmila Golad | present          |

Others:

|   |         |
|---|---------|
| Recording Secretary: Catherine Dodwell  | present |
| Business Manager: Kathy Simmons Collins | present |

2. **ADEQUATE NOTICE OF THE MEETING:** Rachel Feinmark announced that all requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act have been fulfilled: the date, time, and access to this meeting have been advertised in the official newspapers; posted on the Library and Borough websites; and posted at the main entrance of the Library.
3. **MINUTES:** Christa Folco moved to approve the minutes of the June 8, 2023 Regular Meeting. Second: Kathleen Walter. Motion carried.
4. **WELCOME TO VISITORS AND INSTRUCTIONS ON WHEN TO ADDRESS THE BOARD:** Rachel Feinmark announced that public participation and remarks are welcome and provided guidance for comment.
5. **PUBLIC COMMENTS:** none
6. **CORRESPONDENCE:** none

## **7. INTERIM DIRECTOR'S REPORT:**

- Lisa Tomaselli reported that she was able to witness the leaking roof during her first week; the frequent and pounding rain entered the building three times through the outside door; Brian cleaned it up with a wet vac and sanitized the area on all occasions; he brought in a plumber who recommended an additional pump and heavy grade sandbags to minimize the volume of water entering through the door.
- Lisa reported that she hopes the telephone installation will be completed the following week; the switch work is expected the day after the meeting.
- Libby Norris posted the job openings and has started the interview process for the two part-time children's assistants.
- Lisa Tomaselli will request \$1500 from the Friends to purchase new items and replacement items for the Library of Things; she also identified the need for more STEAM programs and additional children's programming; a balance bike was suggested for the Library of Things.
- Lisa announced that the Staff has been very welcoming and wonderful to work with.
- Kathy Simmons Collins reported that an audit requested by the Library was completed on Tuesday.

## **8. TREASURER'S REPORT/JULY BILLS TO BE PAID:**

- The Treasurer's Report was accepted by consent as distributed. It will be filed for audit.
- Kathleen Walter moved to pay the July bills as presented. Second: Christa Folco. Motion carried.
- Dan Lesso addressed the question about the allocation of the CDs and other investments.

## **9. REPORT FROM THE FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY:**

- Ludmila Golad reported that the Friends are on hiatus for the summer; the book sale generated a total of \$4,000 and would have possibly been higher if there wasn't a limit on what was sold (children's and YA books); the Readathon had 653 participants and all participants were awarded medals at a recent Council meeting; the Gallery has been very active; Chris Weyant will have a signed print available for auction; the Friends membership is growing.
- Arrangements for the Wine Tasting scheduled for November 4th are progressing; five wine purveyors will be present; the Market Basket will supply hors d'oeuvres; Kathleen Walter has arranged for a GR high school student to provide background music; a 50/50 raffle and silent auction are also planned for the evening.

## **10. FOR INFORMATION: none**

## **11. FOR DISCUSSION:**

- Rachel Feinmark introduced the dilemma of how the Library can handle online payments without a procurement card and eliminate the need for staff to use personal credit cards for purchases; numerous online subscriptions will no longer send invoices or accept checks for payment; further information will be sought to resolve this.
- Rachel solicited opinions on moving forward with introducing a referendum on the November ballot through the 2017 Johnson Legislation which allows public libraries to request additional funding directly from the taxpayers in excess of the statutory ⅓ mil; the minimum term for this action is three years with a maximum of 10 years; it will be necessary to create a petition and solicit signatures from a percentage of GLRK registered voters in support of this before it can be submitted to the Mayor and Council.
- Rachel introduced a discussion of the timing of a referendum and the introduction of a capital campaign. She shared her view that this funding problem is similar to a three-legged stool: one leg is the capital campaign, another leg is a referendum; and the third leg is the fundraising done by the Friends of the Library. The decision was made to contact Glenn Miller for guidance with developing a capital campaign and a meeting is scheduled for July 31 at 6 pm to discuss how this will look; it was agreed that pursuing a referendum for inclusion on the 2023 November ballot will be deferred to next year.

## **12. FOR ACTION:**

- a. Rachel Feinmark administered the Oath of Office to the Superintendent's Alternate, Jamie Britton. She replaces Lisa Tomaselli who is serving as Interim Director.

## **13. COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

- a. Finance: Dan Lesso reported that he was able to change the interest rate to 2% on a Blue Foundry account; Blue Foundry is still in need of a letter listing all Library accounts and the current signatories as several previous Board members are still listed; discussion followed to identify where similar, previous letters are filed.
- b. Personnel:
  - Kathleen Walter reported that 10 resumes were received for the Library Director position; 3 people have been interviewed so far with another interview scheduled for the following week; she will invite the top two candidates to the August Board meeting. Kathleen Walter moved to go into Closed Session at 8:15 pm to discuss personnel matters. Second: Christa Folco. Motion carried.
  - Dan Lesso moved to resume the regular meeting at 8:21 pm. Second: Christa Folco. Motion carried. Maggie Jacoby moved to raise

Catherine Dodwell's pay to \$175 per session. Second: Dan Lesso.  
Motion carried unanimously.

- c. Buildings and Grounds: no report
- d. Planning: no report
- e. Technology: no report
- f. Ad Hoc: no report

**14. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** none

**15. NEW BUSINESS:** none

**16. ADJOURNMENT:** Christa Folco moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 p.m.  
Second: Kathleen Walter. Motion carried. The next meeting is scheduled for  
Thursday, August 10 at 7:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Catherine M. Dodwell  
Recording Secretary

Rachel Feinmark  
Board President