

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Scarsdale Public Library
March 14, 2022
Via Zoom

A meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Scarsdale Public Library was held via Zoom on March 14, 2022.

The following participants were in attendance: Felicia Block, President; Gary Katz, VP; Laura Liu, Financial Officer; Robert Jeremiah, Secretary; Pedro Ladislau, Trustee; Margot Milberg, Trustee; Jordan Copeland, Trustee; Beth Bermel, Library Director; Catherine Callegari, Assistant Director of Patron Services; Karen Zielinski, Children's Service Manager; Justin Arest, Village Trustee Liaison; Mona Longman, Friends of the Scarsdale Library

Member of the public: Robin Stettinisch

The meeting was called to order at 7:34 p.m.

Approval of Minutes of the February 7, 2022 meeting: A motion was made by Margot, and seconded by Jordan, to approve minutes of the February 7 meeting. It was unanimously approved.

Friends of the Scarsdale Library (FoSL) Report: The big news is that plans have gone live for the spring event, An Evening Under the Stars, scheduled for May 20. Mona discussed the entertainment, food and beverage plans as well as pricing and sponsorship opportunities. The FoSL budget meeting will be at the end of the month to plan for the 2022-2023 fiscal year.

Director's Report and mask mandate discussion: Beth has no more building updates other than the entryway heating unit that was repaired today. The HVAC issues are still under investigation under the direction of Paul Zaicek. Felicia wanted to thank Catherine for the additional information she and the staff are providing. Pedro is still concerned about the damage to the windows in the Children's Department. Next there was a discussion about the mask mandate. Karen Zielinski presented her experiences in the Children's Department with a focus on patron's under 5 years old and masking. Karen requested that we extend the mask mandate until the end of spring break, or even the end of the school year if possible. She asked us to consider keeping it in place for the children's programming. Felicia added that the Office of Children and Family Services has lifted the mask mandate in nursery schools. We are following the same path as the Village by allowing mask-optional entrance to the Library.

President's Report: Felicia continues to meet with Beth weekly. Gary has joined the meetings as well as they prepare for the upcoming transition of roles. Felicia recognized and thanked Justin Arest for his service as he finishes his term as a Village Trustee. Felicia brought up the fund balance and that for our next meeting we will likely receive more material to read about the topic. One would expect that 16% to 18% of the budget would be an ideal fund balance. Earmarking the fund balance for building projects (HVAC, AV as examples) is still the plan. It was announced the current fund balance will be reduced by \$1,000,000 and that money will go directly to the budget created for the next fiscal year, thereby leaving \$800,000 as the fund balance. The Board will continue to think thoughtfully about how to earmark funds with the remaining balance. Next, Felicia offered the chance for public comment - there was none.

Landscape Master Plan Committee—presentation/discussion of master plan: Beth and Margot led us through the current version of the Landscape Master Plan. We can send any comments directly to Margot.

Nominating Committee Proposal of 2022-2023 officers — ACTION ITEM: A motion was made by Margot, and seconded by Jordan, to approve the proposed Nominating Committee Proposal of the 2022-2023 officers. Pedro abstained from voting and the motion passed.

Library Board meeting dates for 2022-2023 — ACTION ITEM: A motion was made by Gary, and seconded by Robert, to approve the proposed Library Board meeting dates for 2022-2023. Pedro abstained from voting and the motion passed.

FY 2022-2023 Budget update: There were no additional updates.

A motion to go into Executive Session to discuss the Director self-assessment was made by Robert at 8:42 p.m., and seconded by Gary.

At 9:25 p.m. a motion was made by Robert , and seconded by Laura, to exit Executive Session.

Felicia Block adjourned the meeting at 9:27 p.m.