

North Greenbush Public Library Trustee Meeting Minutes

Trustees Present:

Joan Behan
Deborah Bernnard
Delores Celeste
Peggy Derevlany
Jim Greenfield

Amy Hale
Jean Holmes
Mike Martinez
Katie Myer

Trustees Absent:

Kimberly Margosian

Ali Mariano

Also in Attendance:

Mary Klimack, Library Director
Laurie Leckonby, Real Estate Advisor

Call to Order: Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m. on October 24, 2024 by Katie Myer.

Approval of Minutes: Upon motion by Joan Behan, seconded by Katie Myer, the minutes of the September meeting were approved unanimously.

Old Business

Building Committee

RPI Tech Park

Peggy Derevlany notified Zac Conley, of Cresa, the real estate consultant to RPI about the board's decision to decline RPI's offer.

Snyders Lake Road

Peggy Derevlany reported that she contacted Libby Post on September 27 and notified her about our pending purchase of the parcel at the intersection of Snyders Lake Road and Mohamed Way. Libby plans to attend our November meeting to discuss communications plans, including the website and rebranding.

The property must be subdivided prior to sale. Mr. Mohamed has indicated through his attorney David Gruenberg that he prefers the library to lead the subdivision effort. This is an unusual arrangement as the seller is generally responsible for subdividing their land.

Peggy Derevlany requested a motion to convene an Executive Session to discuss personnel issues related to legal representation. Jean Holmes made the motion, seconded by Joan Behan.

The regular agenda resumed at 7:30 p.m., immediately after the Executive Session concluded.

The issue of the website is tangentially related to the building project since it will be an important part of our PR campaign and will introduce our revised branding. Deborah Bernnard expressed concerns about timely posting of library activities on the existing site and delaying migration to the Word Press platform supported by UHLS and hosted on their servers. Peggy Derevlany assured the board that she has always been prepared to post content updates within a day of receiving a request.

Friends of the Library Update

The Friends attended Community Day and staffed the library table along with Mary Klimack. Amy Hale reported that they had great conversations with residents, some of whom were not aware of the library.

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The Friends will be participating in the Election Day bake sale. The tables will be set up in the hall by the Annex.

The Friends are preparing a Christmas Basket drawing for December. Next year they are planning "Donate to Dine" during spring and a summer barbecue.

Social Media Policy

Mary Klimack distributed a preliminary draft of a proposed Social Media Use Policy in the board packet prior to the meeting. The draft includes a reference to library staff monitoring and updating social media. Mary will rewrite to be more specific and will add procedures with respect to the use of Messenger, which many Facebook and Instagram members use to communicate with institutions.

New Business

Election of Board President

Katie Myer raised the issue of electing a new board president. The consensus of the board was to wait until the regular election of officers at the January 2025 meeting. Katie, as Vice President, is serving as acting president in the interim.

Director's Report

Mary Klimack presented the director's report. Of particular note, the library has received its first FOIL request from a "citizen's watchdog/government transparency" group based in Florida with an office in NYC, requesting salary information for 2023. Mary was able to gather the relevant information (which is publicly available) and respond within the timeframe specified in our policy.

The written report is incorporated into these minutes by reference. A copy will be filed with the minutes.

Financial Reports

Financial reports were distributed to all trustees in advance of the meeting.

Jim Greenfield reported that the M&T Bank accounts are closed and the funds transferred to the building account. Our financial status continues to be favorable.

Upon motion by Peggy Derevlany, seconded by Deborah Bernnard, the financial reports were approved unanimously.

Adjournment: The regular meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m. upon motion by Peggy Derevlany, seconded by Mike Martinez and approved unanimously.

Minutes prepared by Peggy Derevlany, Secretary