

**NEW ROCHELLE PUBLIC LIBRARY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES
Thursday November 10, 2016**

Chuck Burke, Board President, called the meeting to order at 7:36 p.m.

BOARD MEMBERS

Charles Burke, Jr, President
Gregory T. Varian, Vice President
Dierdra Gray Clark, Secretary
Haina Just-Michael
Quentin S. Jacobs (Absent)
Damon Maher
Yadira Ramos-Herbert

ADMINISTRATION

Thomas Geoffino
Jean Manning
Mary Kane Passacreta (Absent)

WLS REPRESENTATIVE

LaRuth Gray (Absent)

OLD BUSINESS:

Downtown Redevelopment: The NRPL Board continues to engage in dialogue with representatives from RDRXR and is working to create a draft agreement which calls for a two phase approach whereby in Stage 1 the Board would engage a consultant of its choosing to conduct a valuation of our property and the development rights associated with said property as a result of the downtown zoning overlay. Once complete, the Board would furnish said valuation to RDRXR and we would discuss whether RDRXR were willing to proceed to Phase 2 given the valuation level. The exclusive period for Phase 1 would likely be 5 months. If we proceed to Phase 2, RDRXR would continue to pay for appropriate professionals to look at the options for and cost of either rebuilding at our existing site or relocating to a nearby site. Phase 2 would conclude either with an agreed transaction, or not. In return for RDRXR covering the costs of the Board's consultants, lawyers, etc. the Board would agree to exclusively engage only in discussions with RDRXR for most likely an 18 month time period. The issue of confidentiality arose with the Board affirming that such contracts must be made available to the public as soon as reasonably possible. Another topic of interest was the articulated desire of Board to ensure an ability for both sides to walk away without repercussion following the completion of Phase 1. The Board confirmed that it will continue to collaborate with library legal counsel regarding this issue and plans to encourage meaningful and appropriate progress relative to this effort. Trustee Maher outline certain items he would need to have in any redevelopment plan and said he would present those ideas in more detail in writing to be appended to the minutes as part of the public record.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION:

The following individuals spoke during this time:

Marjorie Sachs	Lakeside Drive
Peggy Godfrey	Bayview Avenue

WLS REPORT:

LaRuth Gray was unable to attend but no report was made. However, Tom Geoffino indicated that the Sound Shore libraries (Pelham, Rye, Harrison, Larchmont, Port Chester, Mamaroneck and New Rochelle) are evaluating the possibility of co-sponsoring a Sound Shore area, "One Book, One Community" effort. The book that has been proposed is 1968 by Mark Kurlansky. The group plans to meet in February 2017 to further consider if this book (or perhaps selection of another title) would be a worthwhile Sound Shore library cooperative effort.

PROJECT MANAGERS REPORT:

Roxanne Neilson, Project Manager, did not attend the meeting nor did she provide notice or excuse. No report was submitted in advance by Ms. Neilson.

MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING:

The October monthly meeting minutes were reviewed by the Trustees. Chuck Burke moved that the minutes be approved as amended, seconded by Greg Varian and approved.

EXPENDITURES:

Vouchers previously reviewed by various Board members were found to be in order and co-signed appropriately. Board approved payment of the following vouchers:

<u>October Vouchers</u>	
Bond-Capital	\$3,433.67
Health Care	\$41,930.39
Contractual	\$73,340.54
Various	\$2,688.26
Materials	\$13,710.30
Gifts and Donations	\$7,910.18
Workers Comp	\$6,043.50
Total:	\$149,056.84

FINANCIAL REPORT:

Documents relating to the library's fiscal situation were distributed but no report was made in accordance with the wishes of the Board. Noted once again was the lack of the School District FY2015/16 Audit. We are still uncertain when the Audit document will be complete and made available to our library. The issuance of this document will provide valuable information regarding the library's fiscal situation, particularly characterization of Fund Balance amounts.

PRESIDENTS REPORT:

No report was made as it was integrated into the Director's Report.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Tom Geoffino reported on the following issues:

- + Main Library Theater HVAC Grant: In August 2016, our library submitted a FY 2016/17 New York State Construction Grant awards in relation to work proposed for the Main Library Theater HVAC Project. Our grant award for this project is \$77,647 per WLS Board of Trustees. Following this decision, the New York State Library will confirm the award, pending Dormitory Authority of the State of New York approval, in May/June 2017. The library expects to receive this grant in August/September 2017.
- + HCL Window Replacement Window Grant: In August 2016, our library submitted a FY 2016/17 New York State Construction Grant awards in relation to work proposed for the HCL Window Replacement Project. Our grant award for this project is \$27,647 per WLS Board of Trustees. Following this decision, the New York State Library will confirm the award, pending Dormitory Authority of the State of New York approval, in May/June 2017. The library expects to receive this grant in August/September 2017.
- + Friends of NRPL: Friends will hold its next monthly Board meeting on December 7th with its especially significant Holiday Book Sale scheduled for December 2nd and 3rd.
- + NRPL Foundation: The Foundation Murder Mystery Event took place on October 29th and was adjudged a rousing success by all (over 200 guests) in attendance. The next Foundation Board meeting is scheduled for November 21st.

PERSONNEL REPORT:

No report was made.

BUILDING AND GROUNDS COMMITTEE:

Tom Geoffino indicated the Buildings and Grounds Committee will meet on December 1st. Agenda items for this meeting will include updates regarding the funding status for Capital Projects and the Theater HVAC Project as well as discussion regarding future potential Capital Projects - Air Handler System Replacement, Main Library Exterior and Facade Upgrade/Enhancement/Replacement and Main Library Roof Replacement.

BUDGET COMMITTEE:

Chair Chuck Burke indicated that the Committee has scheduled an initial Committee meeting date on December 5th in order to begin the process of establishing the library FY2017/18 Budget request.

COMMUNITY RELATIONS, FOUNDATION, FRIENDS AND HUGUENOT PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE:

Haina reported that she continues to broadcast her monthly WVOX "All Things New Rochelle Public Library" show every 3rd Thursday at 12 noon as well as a brief 5 minute library event/service highlight every Wednesday mornings around 7:10 am. She also reminded the Board that WLS's Annual Meeting is scheduled for November 17th. Haina provided a status report regarding the continued progress made on the design and creation of our Thanksgiving Day Library Float, involving the efforts of assorted Foundation, Friends, PHCL and NRPL Library Trustee Board members.

FINANCE, TREASURY AUDIT COMMITTEE:

Tom has been in contact with Library Attorney David Shaw relative to the matter of organizational responsibility regarding future library bonding activity. Mr. Shaw is in the process of drafting a memo regarding his proposed approach in relation to the resolution of this matter. Upon completion, this document will be shared with the Board in order to obtain its approval regarding this approach.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE:

Chair Damon Maher indicated that the Committee is continuing its efforts to negotiate with the library union regarding the expired collective bargaining agreement. The next scheduled negotiation session will be November 18th.

POLICY COMMITTEE:

Committee Chair Damon Maher reported that he still intends to call a meeting in the near future relative to policies yet outstanding in relation to adoption or requiring an update. Of particular concern was the library's need to adopt a Child Molestation Policy in relation to staff and volunteers.

SPECIAL PROJECTS:

Chuck Burke announced that the Special Projects Committee will meet on November 22nd to consider the proposal that monthly Library Board meetings will be potentially moved (partially or fully) to New Rochelle City Hall in order to attract a larger number of residents willing to attend these meetings. It is his expectation that the Committee will make a recommendation to the Board in relation to this matter.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Dierdra Clark

Secretary