

**NEW ROCHELLE PUBLIC LIBRARY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES
Thursday August 9, 2018**

Chuck Burke, Board President, called the meeting to order at 7:39 p.m.

BOARD MEMBERS

Charles Burke, Jr, President
Dierdra Gray Clark, Vice President
Yadira Ramos-Herbert, Secretary
Whitney Barrat
Sarah Langlois
Corey Galloway
Daniel Bonnet

ADMINISTRATION

Thomas Geoffino
Jean Manning
Mary Kane Passacreta

WLS REPRESENTATIVE

LaRuth Gray

NEW BUSINESS:

ELECTION OF LIBRARY BOARD OFFICERS

The following Board members, as recommended by the Nominations Committee, are nominated to serve as officers in 2018/19.

Chuck Burke – President
Dierdra Gray Clark – Vice President
Yadira Ramos-Herbert – Secretary

Whitney Barrat moved that the Board Officers, as recommended by the Nominations Committee, be approved, seconded by Daniel Bonnet and approved.

SPECIAL BUSINESS: NY STATE LIBRARY CONSTRUCTION GRANTS APPROVAL

Relative to our upcoming FY2018/19 New York State Library Construction Grant application for funding support in the replacement of the Main Library 2nd Floor Renovation Project, the following action was taken:

Motion was made by Dierdra Gray Clark to agree to the assurances as stipulated by the New York State Education Department in relation to the New York State Library Construction Grant applications for the Main Library 2nd Floor Renovation Project, seconded by Chuck Burke and approved.

Motion was made by Chuck Burke to submit the Smart Growth Impact Statement as required by the New York State Education Department in relation to the New York State Library Construction Grant applications for the Main Library 2nd Floor Renovation Project, seconded by Dierdra Gray Clark and approved.

Motion was made by Corey Galloway to declare that the Main Library 2nd Floor Renovation Project qualifies as State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) Type II actions thus classifying the proposed restorations and use of the above land as requiring no further review under SEQRA and its implementing regulations, seconded by Whitney Barrat and approved.

Relative to our upcoming FY2018/19 New York State Library Construction Grant application for funding support in the Huguenot Children's Library (HCL) Furnace/Boiler Replacement Project, the following action was taken:

Motion was made by Chuck Burke to agree to the assurances as stipulated by the New York State Education Department in relation to the New York State Library Construction Grant applications for the HCL Furnace/Boiler Replacement Project, seconded by Dierdra Gray Clark and approved.

Motion was made by Daniel Bonnet to submit the Smart Growth Impact Statement as required by the New York State Education Department in relation to the New York State Library Construction Grant applications for the HCL Furnace/Boiler Replacement Project, seconded by Dierdra Gray Clark and approved.

Motion was made by Dierdra Gray Clark to declare that the HCL Furnace/Boiler Replacement Project qualifies as State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) Type II actions thus classifying the proposed restorations and use of the above land as requiring no further review under SEQRA and its implementing regulations, seconded by Whitney Barrat and approved.

Tom Geoffino briefly outlined the parameters of both of the grant applications. The HCL Furnace/Boiler Replacement Project is fairly simple and will provide most of the funding for the purchase of a new furnace/boiler to replace the failing unit. However, the Main Library 2nd Floor Renovation Project is far more complicated in scope but the benefits of this effort will be significant for our patrons. We are seeking to engineer and reconfigure this space in order to establish/enhance the following spaces: Teen Room, Local History Room, Handellman Business Opportunity Center, Help/BTOP Room, Microfilm Area, Retrofit LED lighting, Information Desk, Periodical Area along with noise abatement, carpeting and painting improvements.

OLD BUSINESS:

PUBLIC DISCUSSION:

The following individual spoke during this time:
Lourdes Font 76 Vaughn Avenue

WLS REPORT:

Dr. Gray highlighted WLS Executive Director Terry Kirchner's May 2018 report on Digital Literacy in Westchester public libraries. She indicated that the "digital divide" issue needs to be fully explored by member libraries in order to determine if such a problem exists and – if so- the solutions to be undertaken in order to deal with this situation. WLS is particularly interested in playing a key role in providing assistance to counteract this serious problem.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

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

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Tom Geoffino reported that our Summer Reading Game/Summer Programming has witnessed tremendous popularity since its kickoff earlier in the season. In particular, he urged Board members and members of the public to examine the photographs currently being exhibited in our lobby Lumen Winter Gallery space depicting our many wonderful summer programs.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE:

Chair Dierdra Clark provided an update regarding the Personnel Committee and its schedule in relation to the evaluation of the Library Director and his performance. Work on the evaluation tool is currently underway with the intention of distributing it to the board in October with the employee review to be given by the November Board meeting

Daniel Bonnet asked the Board to consider participating in Anti-Racism Training workshop as presented by consultant David Peters. This two day weekend training effort would be held over the course of a weekend and could be in tandem with New Rochelle BOE members. The sense of the Library Board was that this training opportunity was extremely worthwhile for the Board and Library Director – with the responsibility of scheduling the workshop to be managed by Daniel.

NEEDS ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE:

The Committee (consisting of Dierdra Clark, Whitney Barrat and Corey Galloway) presented a slide to the Board and members of the public in attendance entitled “What makes a library valuable? Fact Sheet.” Much discussion ensued regarding this topic. The Committee indicated that it will continue to meet in relation to its assignment and promised to solicit input from staff and public through a variety of medium.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Yadira Ramos-Herbert
Secretary