



Minutes of the Groversville Public Library Board of Trustees Meeting June 21, 2022

The Groversville Public Library Board of Trustees held their regular Board meeting June 17, 2022. Present were President Charles “Ren” Reed, Vice President Merry Dunn-Brown, Vice President of Finance Greg Niforos, Sue Shrader, Caren Pepper, John Mazur, Library Director Valerie Acklin, and Treasurer Michael Frank. Mr. Reed agreed to serve as secretary pro tempore.

Mr. Reed called the meeting to order at 6 PM.

Mr. Reed asked if there was any public comment. There was none.

Mr. Reed asked if there was any discussion regarding the May minutes. Mrs. Shrader pointed out that her name was left off the list of Trustees that were present at the May meeting. Mr. Mazur made a motion to approve the amended minutes which was seconded by Ms. Dunn-Brown. The Board unanimously approved the minutes with a vote of “aye”.

Mr. Reed asked Mr. Frank to deliver the Treasurer’s Report. Ms. Pepper made a motion to approve the Treasurer’s report which was seconded by Mr. Niforos. The Board unanimously approved the Treasurer’s report with a vote of “aye”.

Mr. Frank distributed the Warrants list for May 2022, which was audited by John Blackmon our Claims Auditor. Mr. Blackmon found all claims to be legitimate claims for monies due from the Groversville Public Library and recommended payment of same. Mr. Niforos made a motion to approve the Warrants list, which was seconded by Ms. Dunn-Brown, and to have Mr. Frank, our Treasurer, prepare checks for payment of these claims. The Board unanimously approved the Warrants list with a vote of “aye”.

Mr. Niforos informed the Board that there was no Budget and Finance Committee Report.

Mr. Frank informed the Trustees that the Groversville Foundation Board has not met in the past month, but that the Foundation did make a \$10,000 payment to the Library.

Mr. Reed delivered Mrs. Jean LaPorta’s Friends of the Groversville Public Library Report.

Mr. Reed delivered his President’s Report to the Board.

In the absence of Mr. Carlson, Ms. Acklin delivered a report on behalf of the Building and Grounds Committee. The information was imbedded in her Director’s Report.

Mr. Reed gave the Local History Room Committee Report.

Ms. Dunn-Brown gave the Outreach Committee Report.

In her Personnel Committee Report, Mrs. Shrader informed the Board that Abby Duplessis, the new Library Clerk, is settling in nicely. Mrs. Shrader then informed the Board that the remainder of her report will be discussed when the Board goes into executive session at the end of the meeting.

Mr. Reed reported that the Policy Committee did not meet during the past month.

Ms. Pepper reported that the Program Committee did meet during the past month.

Valerie Acklin
Library Director

2022-2023
Board of Trustees

Merry Dunn Brown

Richard Carlson

John Mazur

Greg Niforos

Caren Pepper

Christine Pesses

Charles Reed

Christian Rohrs

Susan Schrader

Mr. Mazur reported that the Public Relations Committee did meet during the past month. He did say that he had contacted Bob Cudmore about having Mr. Cudmore interview a Board member about the Library. The Board indicated that they were interested, but not right away.

Ms. Acklin delivered the remainder of her Director's Report (not related to building and grounds) to the Board.

No old business was discussed.

Under new business, Ms. Acklin informed the Board that the Staff decided to suspend its staff-paid optical plan but to add a staff-paid dental plan. Neither of these plans were benefits of the Library. Ms. Acklin also informed the Board that the State questioned the term of office of our newly re-elected Board member Richard Carlson. It turns out that the Library's long standing practice of how Trustees are elected to the Board and the length of term of their office is not clearly stated in our Bylaws. Ms. Acklin will need to amend the Library's Annual Report to the State with an explanation and the Board will need to amend its Bylaws.

Mr. Reed requested a motion to enter Executive Session at 7:50 PM, in order to discuss personnel issues. Mr. Niforos made the motion, seconded by Ms. Pepper. The Board unanimously approved with a vote of "aye". At 8:32 PM, Mr. Reed requested a motion to exit Executive Session. Mrs. Shrader made the motion, seconded by Mr. Mazur. The Board unanimously approved with a vote of "aye".

Mrs. Shrader made a motion to accept the Personnel Committee's Report concerning Valerie Acklin's annual evaluation and Ms. Dunn-Brown seconded the motion. The Board unanimously approved with a vote of "aye".

Ms. Pepper made a motion to increase Lex Lanza's hours from 17.5 hours per week to 29.5 hours per week, beginning July 1, 2022, and Mr. Mazur seconded the motion. The Board unanimously approved with a vote of "aye".

At 8:35 PM, Mr. Reed requested a motion to adjourn. Mrs. Shrader made the motion, seconded by Mr. Mazur. The Board unanimously approved with a vote of "aye".

Respectfully submitted,

Charles Reed, secretary pro tempore