



## Minutes of the Gloversville Public Library Board of Trustees Meeting May 17, 2022

The Gloversville Public Library Board of Trustees held its regular meeting on May 17, 2022. Present were President Charles "Ren" Reed, Vice President Merry Dunn-Brown, Library Director Valerie Acklin, Treasurer Michael Frank, Claims Auditor John Blackmon, Secretary Christian W. Rohrs, Christine Pesses, Richard "Dick" Carlson, Gregory Niforos, Caren Pepper, and John Mazur.

Mr. Reed called the meeting to order at 6:02 PM.

Mr. Reed asked if there was any public comment. Mr. Blackmon noted that several complaints had been made regarding the budget vote and, particularly, that the vote was not amply advertised in *The Leader-Herald*. Mr. Mazur suggested running advertisements in both *The Schenectady Gazette* and *The Leader-Herald*.

Mr. Reed asked for a motion to approve the March minutes. Ms. Pepper made a motion, seconded by Mr. Mazur. Mr. Reed asked if there was any discussion. Ms. Pepper noted that she was not listed as in attendance, although she was. Also, Mr. Niforos made the correction under paragraph 6. The minutes should read "Mr. Niforos indicated that there..."

Mr. Frank delivered the Treasurer's Report. Mr. Reed asked for a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report. Mrs. Pesses made a motion, seconded by Mr. Rohrs. Mr. Reed asked if there were any questions. Hearing none, the board approved with "aye."

Mr. Niforos reported on behalf of the Budget and Finance Committee. Although they had not met, he did report on the May 3 budget vote, which passed with an approval of 139 to 55. Mrs. Pesses reported that there were an overwhelming number of absentee ballots, to which Ms. Acklin noted some of which could not be processed due to lack of signatures on the back of the envelopes. Ms. Dunn-Brown suggested highlighting or sticky-noting the envelopes to make that signature box more noticeable.

Mr. Frank noted there was no report on behalf of the Foundation.

Mr. Reed reported on behalf of Mrs. Jean La Porta for the Friends of the Library. Ms. Dunn-Brown made a correction: the next meeting will be Thursday, July 28 at 5:00 PM.

In his President's Report, Mr. Reed acknowledged the efforts on behalf of the Friends with the Pie Sale and thanked the community for their continued support of Gloversville Public Library with the May 3 budget vote.

Mr. Carlson reported on behalf of the Buildings and Grounds Committee.

In her Local History Room Committee report, Mrs. Pesses was pleased with the successful reopening ceremony and anticipates a continued relationship with Mr. Tom Ruller.

Ms. Dunn-Brown delivered a report on behalf of the Outreach Committee. They had an information table during the Friends-sponsored performance of *Love Letters* and are still distributing calendars around the community. Ms. Acklin also mentioned there will be a GPL presence at the F,J,&G Thoroughfair; therefore Outreach Committee involvement would be very welcome.

Mrs. Shrader reported on Behalf of the Personnel Committee, during which she noted the Director's Evaluation was due on May 17, 2022.

Mr. Reed asked for a motion to accept the Warrants. Ms. Dunn-Brown made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Shrader. Mr. Reed asked if there was any discussion. Hearing none, the board approved with "aye."

In her Policy Committee report, Mrs. Pesses asked if there were any questions or comments on the policy for Fixed Assets. Ms. Dunn-Brown noted an error in paragraph 3 on page 2. Aside from that, there were no major concerns with that policy. Similarly, Mrs. Pesses asked if there were any concerns or questions on the Local History Room Policy. Ms. Acklin noted changes to the procedure to enter to the Local History Room, regarding age of entrants, use of pen or pencil, etc.

After this discussion, Mrs. Pesses asked for a motion to amend and pass the Assets Policy and the Local History Room Policy. Mr. Mazur made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Shrader. Mr. Reed asked if there were any questions or comments. Hearing none, the Board approved with a vote of "aye."

In her Program Committee report, Ms. Pepper noted there had not been a meeting; however, Ms. Acklin noted that the Local Author Fest was a success with great attendance. Ms. Acklin noted there will be a GPL presence at the Glove City Pride Festival and the local Juneteenth Celebration.

Mr. Mazur noted there had not been a Public Relations Committee meeting. Mr. Mazur asked if it would be beneficial to invite Mr. Robert Cudmore to do some reporting/interviewing of the Local History Room.

Ms. Acklin delivered her Director's Report.

Mr. Reed asked if there was any Old Business. There was none.

Mr. Reed asked if there was any new business, Ms. Acklin requested a motion to retain Butler Rowland Mays Architects, LLP to conduct a site study and create an initial proposal for 66, 68, and 68 1/2 East Fulton Street, for a fee of \$8400. Mrs. Pesses made a motion, seconded by Mr. Carlson. Mr. Reed asked if there was any discussion, to which Mr. Niforos asked for a clarification on funding. After much discussion, all voted in favor of "aye."

Mr. Reed requested the following motion to be made: Motion to certify the May 3, 2022 tax levy vote and trustee election, the results of which are:

- Tax Levy of \$553,695: Yes -- 139; No -- 55
- 5-Year Trustee Term: Christine Pesses
- 1-Year Trustee Term: Richard Carlson

Mrs. Shrader made a motion, seconded by Mr. Niforos Mr. Reed asked if there was any discussion? Hearing none, the motion carried.

Mr. Reed announced our next meeting will be June 21 at 6:00 PM.

At 7:58 PM, Mr. Reed requested a motion to adjourn. Mr. Mazur made a motion, with a second motion made by Mrs. Pesses. The board approved with a vote of "aye."

Respectfully submitted,

---

Christian W Rohrs, Secretary