

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Scarsdale Public Library (SPL)
September 11, 2023
Scott Meeting Room

A meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Scarsdale Public Library was held on September 11, 2023 in the Scott Meeting Room.

The following participants were in attendance: Laura Liu, President; Jordan Copeland, Vice-President; Robert Jeremiah, Financial Officer; Diksha Mudbhary, Secretary; Stephanie Wechsler, Trustee; Pedro Ladislau, Trustee; Jennifer Fischman, Trustee; Scott Gerwin, Trustee; Betty Pforzheimer, Trustee; Beth Bermel, Library Director; Catherine Callegari, Assistant Director; Michelle Lichtenberg, Friends of the Scarsdale Library; Sameer Ahuja, Village Trustee Liaison.

The meeting was called to order at 7:33 p.m.

1. Approval of minutes from July 17, 2023 meeting: A motion was made by Betty, and seconded by Jordan, to approve the minutes of the July 17, 2023 meeting. Diksha and Scott abstained, as they were not at the July meeting.

2. Friends of the Scarsdale Library Report: Fall Family Day (October 8, 10am-1pm) will be held with a variety of events, and the launch of the pavers initiative. A readathon for children will take place in the winter as well, and the Spelling Bee in the spring. Michelle congratulated the Library for the strong programming featured in the September Library email.

3. Director's Report: Beth reported on new Librarian hires filling longstanding vacancies. Her director's report details other issues. Jennifer asked about the repairs that need to take place and whether they adversely impact the budget. Beth confirmed the fund balance and emergency funds will cover these. Makerspace soft launch ongoing with planned programming. Laura complimented the Library on the variety of children's programming offerings and their popularity. Signage is starting to go up and will be completed in the coming weeks.

4. President's Report: Mayor Arrest will be including a Library update in his updates to the community. The Recreation Department has filled its Senior Programming staff position. Laura commended Beth on filling the open positions.

5. Landscape Committee: Recommendations of proposals are finalized from 2 vendors for both the landscape architect and the designer for the pavilion and will come to the Library Board followed by the Village Board for approval. Pedro asked about the funds, and FoSL confirmed that it's mostly funded, and FoSL is still fundraising to reach the total amount.

6. Signage Committee: Signage installation has been ongoing, and they will continue to finish this work. Betty complimented the work that's up so far, and Pedro complimented on the "Welcome" sign that catches the eye.

7. Policy Committee: The committee met over the summer to identify policies for review. The Social Media Policy update has been completed but will be reviewed by an attorney before Board approval. Beth and the staff are still working on the new Program Policy.

8. Bylaws Committee: Connected with WSL Director on changes to Bylaws to the State Library Charter to allow for the 5-year Library term to be more streamlined. Follow up needed.

9. Change October Library Board meeting date from 10/2/23 to 10/11/23— A motion was made by Jennifer and seconded by Jordan. Unanimously approved.

9. Comments from the public: There were no comments from the public.

10. Executive Session to discuss negotiations conducted pursuant to the Taylor Law involving the CSEA Bargaining Unit; and, the financial history of a particular person: A motion to enter Executive Session made by Pedro, and seconded by Jordan at 8:04 pm. The motion was approved unanimously.

At 8:39 pm a motion was made by Stephanie, and seconded by Robert, to exit the Executive Session.

11. Ratification and approval of the 2023-2027 CSEA Library collective bargaining agreement: Jennifer made the motion to ratify and approve the 2023-2027 CSEA collective bargaining agreement, seconded by Robert. The motion passed unanimously.

12. Approval of non-union wage increases for FY2023-2024: Betty moved, and Jordan seconded the motion to approve 2.25% increases for non-union staff, retroactive to June 1, 2023, with the following adjustments for parity: Roberta Stein-Ham \$122,453.64 and Catherine Callegari \$120,053.93. The motion was approved unanimously.

Laura adjourned the Board meeting at 8:42 pm.

Submitted by Diksha Mudbhary