

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Scarsdale Public Library (SPL)
November 4, 2024
Scott Room

A meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Scarsdale Public Library was held on November 4, 2024.

The following participants were in attendance: Jordan Copeland, President; Robert Jeremiah, Vice President; Diksha Mudbhary, Finance Officer; Scott Gerwin, Secretary; Erika Rublin, Trustee; Stephanie Wechsler, Trustee; Jennifer Fischman, Trustee; Beth Bermel, Library Director; Catherine Callegari, Assistant Director; Michelle Lichtenberg, Friends of the Scarsdale Library.

Absent: Pedro Ladislau, Trustee; Betty Pforzheimer, Trustee.

The meeting was called to order at 7:32 pm.

1. Approval of the minutes from October 7, 2024: Diksha moved to approve the minutes from the October 7th meeting of the Library Board. Robert seconded the motion, and the motion was approved with none opposed.

2. Report from Friends of Scarsdale Library: Michelle Lichtenberg gave a brief update on behalf of the Friends of the Scarsdale Library, noting that the Gala fundraiser at Beach Point was a success and exceeded its fundraising goal. The Friends are not expecting to have another fundraiser of that scale until 2026, but will continue with solicitations to support the Library's Landscape Master Plan in the interim.

3. Director's Report: Beth gave her director's report, sharing that the Library's HVAC system was not working for a period of time in October, but it has now been repaired. There is still ongoing work to understand the root cause of the failure so that future incidents can be prevented. Beth also reported that Apiary is now closed and there is currently no vendor operating the Library's cafe space. The Village did not receive any proposals in response to the RFP, but the Library will do more targeted outreach to potential vendors. Support Services Administrator Roberta Stein-Ham plans to retire at the end of December, after 31 years running the Library's Business Office. She will continue in a part-time capacity after her retirement but the Library has begun looking for a replacement. The Library is also looking to fill a position for the Head of Access Services. Beth noted that the SPCA event held at the Library on October 26th was very well-attended and that 2 puppies, 1 cat, and 1 kitten were adopted at the event.

4. President's Report: Jordan gave a brief president's report, noting that no emails concerning Library business were received via the Board email account in the past month.

5. Landscape Committee Update: Beth gave a brief update on behalf of the Landscape Committee, noting that Board's approval of the landscape schematic design enables the building architect, Slade, to begin design of the proposed pavilion and the door to the performance patio. The Committee plans to have a kick-off meeting with Slade the week of November 18th.

6. Policy Committee: The Board discussed proposed changes to the existing Library Code of Conduct and Unattended Minors Policy, as well as a new Vulnerable Adults Policy. Adoption of the changes and the new policy was recommended by the Board's Policy Committee. After discussion and suggestions for a few changes from the Committee's drafts, Jennifer made a motion to adopt the changes to the Code of Conduct and the Unattended Minors Policy and to adopt the new Vulnerable Adults Policy. Erika seconded the motion and the motion was approved with none opposed.

There were no comments from the public.

Jordan adjourned the Board meeting at 8:10.