

MINUTES

GARFIELD PUBLIC LIBRARY

Board of Trustees Regular Meeting Wednesday,

January 31, 2024

The regular meeting of Wednesday, January 31, 2024 was called to order at 7:00 PM by President Raymond Rivas.

1. President Raymond Rivas asked for the Roll Call:

Present:

President, Raymond Rivas

Vice President, Thomas Derr (via phone)

Treasurer, Suny Mellawa (via phone)

Secretary, Michael Kupec, Jr.

Alternate for Mayor Richard Rigoglioso, Christopher Braitsch (via phone)

Alternate for Acting Superintendent Nick Perapto, Marie Marx (via phone)

Director, Mary Jo Jennings

Absent:

Acting Superintendent of Schools, Nick Perrapato

Mayor, Richard Rigoglioso

2. President, Raymond Rivas read the following statement:

- Pursuant to the Open Public Meeting Act, Chapter 231, Laws of 1976, adequate written notice of this meeting, together with the agenda of this meeting is to be:
- permanently posted on the Board's officially designated public bulletin board, located in the Garfield Public Library lobby, 500 Midland Avenue, in the City of Garfield delivered to the Passaic Herald News, and the Community News, newspapers circulating in the City of Garfield,
- filed with the City Clerk of the City of Garfield; and
- mailed to all persons, if any, who have requested said notice, pursuant
- Section 14 of Chapter 231, Laws of 1976.

3. Motion made by Suny Mellawa to accept the minutes* and seconded by Christopher Braitsch. Unanimously approved.

*(Minutes of the last three meetings: December regular, emergency and reorg.)

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

4. The Board asked for a few changes to this monthly Director’s Report including a list of the “Top 20” hot priorities. MaryJo was asked to explain the quarterly, safety inspection report.

COMMUNICATIONS:

5. No communications.

COMMUNITY ROOM REQUESTS:

6. No requests.

TREASURER’S REPORT

7. Suny Mellawa asked questions related to budget, reserves, and what dollars need to be returned to the City. MaryJo will research.

FOUNDATION REPORT:

8. No report.

FRIENDS REPORT:

9. Michael confirmed dates of upcoming NYPAC trip, Trivia Night and Tea Party.

OLD BUSINESS:

10. Michael reported that bylaws are being updated.

11. MaryJo to update us on video conferencing / ZOOM /WiFi solution by next meeting.

12. Resolutions not previously, formally offered:

a.) Christopher Braitsch offered and Marie Marx seconded the following resolution: GPL 01 2024

BE IT RESOLVED, that the salaries for the Library staff are as follows for the 2023 pending a new union contract settlement:

Mary Jo Jennings	\$82,000.00 yearly
Christopher Shupenko	\$50,000.00 yearly
Linda Jackson	\$68,969.00 yearly
Diane Shupenko	\$45,097.00 yearly
Mencia Docet	\$40,002.00 yearly
Nikola Skurteski	\$34,000.00 yearly
Vincent LaTona	\$13.44 per hr
Beltran Lopez	\$14.54 per hr
Christiana Morillo	\$23.52 per hr
Brendan Nunno	\$13.44 per hr

Edward Sokulski	\$18.53 per hr
Amanda Trott	\$13.76 per hr

Resolution was unanimously adopted.

b.) Marie Marx offered and Suny Mellawa seconded the following resolution: GPL 02 2024

BE IT RESOLVED, that the salaries for the Library staff are as follows for 2024 pending a new union contract settlement:

Mary Jo Jennings	\$82,000.00 yearly
Christopher Shupenko	\$50,000.00 yearly
Linda Jackson	\$68,969.00 yearly
Diane Shupenko	\$45,097.00 yearly
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Nikola Skurteski	\$34,000.00 yearly
Vincent LaTona	\$14.44 per hr
Beltran Lopez	\$14.54 per hr
Christiana Morillo	\$23.52 per hr
Brendan Nunno	\$14.44 per hr
Edward Sokulski	\$18.53 per hr
Amanda Trott	\$14.76 per hr

Resolution was unanimously adopted.

NEW BUSINESS:

13. Michael Kupec, Jr. offered, and Christopher Braitsch seconded the following resolution: GPL 03 2024

BE IT RESOLVED, that MaryJo Jennings be appointed Purchasing Agent for the calendar year 2024 with a spend limit of \$2,600.

Resolution was unanimously adopted.

14. President Raymond Rivas established a Strategic Planning Committee with the following members: Marie Marx, Thomas Derr, and Michael Kupec, Jr.

15. President Raymond Rivas established a Capital Planning Committee with the following members: Suny Mellawa, Christopher Braitsch, and TBD.

16. President Raymond Rivas established the Contract Negotiations Committee with the following members: Suny Mellawa, Thomas Derr, and Michael Kupec, Jr.

Adjournment:

16. Motion made by Suny Mellawa and seconded by Christopher Braitsch to adjourn.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Meeting of the Garfield Free Public Library Board of Trustees was adjourned at 8:05 PM. Resolution was unanimously passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Kupec, Jr.

Trustee / Secretary

To be voted on at the February 28th 2024 meeting.