Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Scarsdale Public Library (SPL)
June 10, 2024
Scott Room

A meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Scarsdale Public Library was held on June 10, 2024.

The following participants were in attendance: Jordan Copeland, President; Robert Jeremiah, Vice President; Scott Gerwin, Secretary; Jennifer Fischman, Trustee; Pedro Ladislau, Trustee; Beth Bermel, Library Director; Catherine Callegari, Assistant Director; Mona Longman, Friends of the Scarsdale Library; Sameer Ahuja, Village Board Liaison. Erika Rublin, Trustee, observed the meeting via Zoom.

Absent: Diksha Mudbhary, Finance Officer; Stephanie Wechsler, Trustee; Betty Pforzheimer, Trustee. The meeting was called to order at 7:33 pm.

1. Approval of the minutes from May 6, 2024 meeting: Robert moved to approve the minutes from the May 6th meeting of the Library Board. Jennifer seconded the motion, and the motion was approved with none opposed.

2. Friends of the Scarsdale Library Report: Mona Longman gave a report on behalf of the Friends. The Friends are receiving donations via the envelopes included in the Bookmarks newsletter. Pavers are still available, but the paver campaign will be wound down at the end of the summer. There is a fundraiser planned for October 17th. The theme has not yet been decided.

3. Director’s Report: Beth gave her director’s report, sharing that Library was the victim of an attempted malware attack. WLS was alerted and immediately shut down the network and reconfigured all computers in the Library. Beth met without outside counsel Stephanie “Cole” Adams and discussed the need to work on our emergency response policy and fiscal controls policy prior to Cole meeting with the full Library board. Visitor numbers have been very high in June. Huntington Learning Centers has been using Library tables and study rooms for private tutoring and taking staff time. The Library’s tutoring policy allows the Library to restrict tutoring if it is unduly interfering with use of the Library, but we anticipate that Huntington will soon be moving back to their own spaces, so we haven’t needed to restrict Huntington at this time.

4. President’s Report: Jordan gave the President’s report, sharing that the Library Board’s policy committee will consist of Erika, Jennifer, Betty, and Scott, with Scott chairing the committee; Bylaws and Governance will consist of Jordan, Robert, and Stephanie, with Jordan chairing; and the Landscape Committee will consist of Betty and Jordan. Jordan also proposed a new approach for handling emails from Library patrons that are directed to the Board. Emails directed to the Board raising material complaints will be shared with the Board via a Drive folder and will be discussed at the subsequent meeting.

5. Landscape Project Committee Update: Jordan gave an update on behalf of the Landscape Project Committee, reporting that the Landscape Committee met with the landscape architect after they had conducted a site analysis, and they discussed proposals for the location of the pavilion. The committee has landed on a preferred location for the pavilion on the side of the building, and one backup location on the grass triangle in the parking lot. Meetings with the landscape architect will continue on a regular cadence of every two weeks.
Jordan adjourned the Board meeting at 8:11.