

PEQUANNOCK TOWNSHIP PUBLIC LIBRARY
Minutes of the April 19, 2023 Regular Trustees Meeting

President Muzzio called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM and announced that notice requirements of Public Law 1975 c231 as defined in N.J.S.A. 10:4-8 had been complied with for this meeting through adequate advance notice of date, time, and location being posted in both the Library and Municipal Building. Notice was also mailed to the official Township newspapers.

Roll Call: Present: Mrs. Muzzio, Mrs. Reich, Mrs. Russell, Mrs. White, Mrs. McBain, and Mrs. O'Connor

Absent: Mr. Galante
Also Present: Ms. Maynard

Public:

Minutes: A motion was made by Mrs. White to approve the minutes of the February 15, 2023 Regular Trustees Meeting and the minutes of the March 15, 2023 Regular Trustees Meeting

Second: Mrs. Reich. Approved: Unanimously.

Correspondence: None.

Bill Sheets: 1. A motion was made by Mrs. White to approve the operating account checks for April (bills of March 2023) in the amount of \$112,141.72.

Second: Mrs. Russell. Approved: Unanimously.

Financial Reports: 1. A motion was made by Mrs. White to approve the Operating Account Financial Reports for February and March 2023.

Second: Mrs. Reich. Approved: Unanimously.

2. A motion was made by Mrs. White to approve the Building and Endowment Fund Financial Reports for February and March 2023.

Second: Mrs. Reich. Approved: Unanimously.

Director's Report: The Director reminded the Trustees to complete their Financial Disclosure Statements that the Township Clerk sent to each Trustee. The Director provided three separate roof quotes, which ranged in price from \$63,000 to \$75,500. Based on the quotes, this project will need to go out to bid. The gutters were cleaned on March 20. The bottle refill station was installed on April 6, and the landscape project is scheduled to begin on June 3. A new library was added to Main, the Library consortium. The new member library is New Providence Memorial Library. A professional development plan was

submitted to the Library Board by the Director. This plan is part of Goal One of the Library's strategic plan. The Library Director provided additional quotes on a new telephone system.

President's Report: The Library Board President made a statement regarding egregious misinformation that came from a voting member of the Library Board, see attached.

Old Business: A motion was made by Mrs. Muzzio to approve the updated Library Trustee By Laws

Second: Mrs. White. Approved: Unanimously.

New Business: Establishment of Building Advisory Group—Mrs. Muzzio notified the Board that the Library is creating a Building Advisory Group in response to one of the goals in the Library's Strategic Plan

Public: Ms. Brianne Colombo questioned the Trustees regarding their decision to return excess funds to the Township. Mrs. Kim Quigley commented that she thought it was putting the cart before the horse by giving back money to the Township; and that funds should be preserved for necessary improvements. Mr. Paul Mahler asked if the money in the capital plan is sufficient and again questioned why money is going back to the Township. Mrs. Mary Kay Sherman asked how the money is being returned to the taxpayers. Mrs. McBain mentioned that the gardening program was greatly enjoyed by Ron McBain.

Next Regular Board Meeting: May 17, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.

Adjournment: A motion was made by Mrs. Muzzio to adjourn at 7:38 PM.

Second: Mrs. Reich. Approved: Unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Mrs. McBain
Secretary

In the past few weeks, several people approached me regarding misinformation that came from a voting member on this Library Board.

This misinformation left them with the impression that the Library Director and other Library Board members were trying to withhold funds from the community and implying that the Board was trying to do something shifty with these funds.

I explained to them that it was not the Board's decision to make but actually the New Jersey State Librarian that makes the final decision of where the funds go.

I find this to be a very disturbing circumstance that a Board member would float this rumor.

I have lived in this town for 43 years – 29 years of which have been dedicated to this beautiful library.

Both my husband and I have been involved in many programs in the town and have served on many Boards.

We are known to many people in this town and I resent that someone would sully our good name and the names of other members of this Board, including the Library Director.

I purposely did not mention any names. I am not looking for any confrontation. I just want the nonsense to stop and for this person to conduct themselves in a professional manner.