

PEQUANNOCK TOWNSHIP PUBLIC LIBRARY
Minutes of the March 20, 2024 Regular Trustees Meeting

Mrs. White 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: Mr. Peller, Mrs. Russell, Mrs. White, Mr. Galante, and Mrs. Muzzio

Absent: Mrs. McBain, Mrs. McShane

Also Present: Ms. Brennan, Ms. Maynard, and Mr. Zucker

A motion was made by Mrs. White to approve Resolution 2024-02 Appointment of Library Attorney to the Pequannock Township Public Library.
Discussion followed regarding the addition of wording to the resolution to include “as further described in the engagement letter dated March 19, 2024” after Now therefore.
Second: by Mr. Galante with changes indicated. Approved: Unanimously.

Mrs. Muzzio requested that the resolution to transfer money to the capital account be included on the agenda. This request was added to old business.

Minutes: There was discussion on the minutes of the November 29, 2023 minutes.
A motion was made by Mrs. White to amend the minutes of the November 29, 2023 Regular Trustees Meeting by changing the submitted by name to Debbie Maynard.
Second: Mrs. Muzzio. Approved unanimously.

A motion was made by Mrs. White to approve the minutes of the February 21, 2024 Regular Trustees meeting.
Second: Mr. Peller. Approved unanimously.

A motion was made by Mrs. White to approve the minutes of the February 28, 2024 Special Trustees meeting.
Second: Mr. Peller. Approved unanimously.

A motion was made by Mrs. White to approve the minutes of the December 13, 2023 Regular meeting.
Second: Mrs. Muzzio. Approved unanimously.

Correspondence: Letter to Mr. Zucker from Mrs. Sandy LaCorte.

Bill Sheets: A motion was made by Mrs. White to approve the operating account checks for March (bills of February 2024) in the amount of \$ 62,547.39.

Second: Mrs. Russell. Approved unanimously.

A motion was made by Mrs. White to approve the Building & Endowment account

checks for March (bills of February 2024) in the amount of \$ 38,321.00.

Second: Mrs. Russell. Approved unanimously.

Financial Reports: 1. A motion was made by Mrs. White to approve the Operating Account Financial Reports for February 2024.

Second: Mr. Peller. Approved: Unanimously.

2. A motion was made by Mrs. Russell to approve the Building and Endowment Fund Financial Reports for February 2024.

Second: Mr. Peller. Approved: Unanimously.

Director's Report: The Library Director reported that Donaldson's Plumbing was in to repair a toilet in the men's bathroom. Marshall LLC was called to begin the roof project. The project will take three days from start to finish. The Friends of the Library book sale is scheduled for March 15 and 16. The Friends of the Library donated a subscription to Library Speakers Consortium to the Library. The virtual author talks provided through this subscription started in February. Two school media specialists met with the Library staff to review summer reading plans. The New Jersey State Library is offering a virtual Trustee orientation on March 23 from 9:00 – 4:00; registration information was given to the Library Board.

Old Business: Resolution 2023-04 Reserving Funds for the Capital Account was discussed.

New Business: Start and scope for renovation project was discussed. The Board agreed to bring Mr. Cutillo to the next meeting to answer questions presented to him prior to the next meeting.

Public: The Board recognized Mr. Paul Mahler. Mr. Mahler commented that he has been attending Library Board meetings for about a year and he sees consistent delays, a change to the power base. And stated he didn't agree with the Board talking to Mr. Zucker in closed session.

The Board recognized Mrs. Megan Dempsey. Mrs. Dempsey asked why the board is road blocking improvements and stated that it took four months and an attorney to pass minutes.

The Board recognized Mr. Doug Muzzio. Mr. Muzzio stated the notion of a straw vote is straw man. Unless it was stated before the vote, it's a legitimate vote.

The Board recognized Mr. Mathew Bedel. Mr. Bedel stated he is a fan of the Library since moving to the area. He said it is disheartening that the money is not being spent at the Library. Mr. Bedel stated to focus on issues so we can enjoy this beautiful amenity.

The Board recognized Mrs. Laura Shamber. Mrs. Shamber is a 24 year resident. She said it seems unbelievable that the board does not follow the guidelines in the NJ Library trustee handbook. The Library Board's job is to do the work referenced in the strategic plan.

The Board recognized Mrs. Elaine Baccarella. Mrs. Bacarella wanted to know how a council liaison is able to vote on the Library Board and on the council.

The Board recognized Mrs. Sandy LaCorte. Mrs. LaCorte apologized for inappropriately sending a letter to the Library attorney.

Public session was closed by a motion made by Mrs. White at 8:32.

Next Board Meeting: April 17, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.

A motion was made by Mrs. White to return to open session at 9:30 PM.

Second: Mr. Peller. Approved: Unanimously.

Adjournment: A motion was made by Mrs. White to adjourn at 9:30 PM.

Second: Mr. Peller. Approved: Unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Maynard

Debbie Maynard, Library Director