

East Rockaway Public Library Board Meeting Minutes

January 16, 2024

The regular monthly meeting of the East Rockaway Public Library Board of Trustees was held on January 16, 2024. President Danielle D'Esposito called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

Those members present were Trustees Cynthia Lark and Noreen Canty. Trustees Gary Aue was absent with prior notice. Diana Muller was also absent. Library Director Mary Thorpe was present.

President D'Esposito presented the minutes of the December 19, 2023 monthly meeting. Upon a motion by Trustee Canty, seconded by Trustee Lark and unanimously carried, the minutes were approved.

Abstract Review:

President D'Esposito presented the Abstract of Audited Vouchers #s 7a & 8 which were reviewed. Upon a motion by Trustee Lark, seconded by Trustee Canty, and unanimously carried, the vouchers were approved.

Line Budget and Trust and Agency Account:

President D'Esposito presented the January 2024 Line Budget and Trust and Agency reports. On a motion from Trustee Lark, seconded by Trustee Canty and unanimously carried, the reports were accepted as presented.

Circulation Report:

The December circulation report was presented.

Directors Report:

SouthShore Alarms, Inc. came to look at the fire alarm panel. The technician noticed that the battery was very warm and out of date.

Camera replacement - The cameras are working and Director Thorpe does have access on her computer. We cannot get access on the back computer. Director Thorpe has spoken to three IT technicians and they all agree that the "server" or NVR is end of life and needs replacing. Our contract with A+ Security ends June 30th and she would recommend that we not renew it. Two of the IT techs told Director Thorpe that it is not necessary to have someone monitor the cameras. She spoke to a few other directors and they do not have contracts to monitor cameras either. Director Thorpe has gathered three quotes for replacing the recorder. The village is looking into cameras that are cloud based. The quote received from A+ Technology for those kinds of cameras is very expensive. For our needs, the recorder would be fine. Then in the future if need be, we may be able to get a construction grant to replace the cameras to a cloud-based platform

The Saturday programs have been well attended and appreciated.

For the first time in several years the governor's budget includes an increase in Library Operating Aid, from \$99.6M to \$102.1M. Though a modest increase, it is very welcome news! Construction Aid was held flat at \$34M in the proposal.

Unfinished Business:

- A. **Security Camera Storage** - options were discussed but no action taken. It will be reviewed again at the February meeting.
- B. **Alarm monitoring** - On a motion from Trustee D'Esposito, seconded by Trustee Canty and unanimously approved, the alarm monitoring contract was awarded to SouthShore Alarms, Inc.

New Business:

- A. **2024-2025 Budget** - no action taken. The budget will be reviewed again at the February meeting.

Executive Session:

A motion was made by Trustee Lark and seconded by Trustee Canty to go into Executive Session at 6:49 PM to discuss salaries for the 2024-2025 budget. The board requested that Director Thorpe compile budgets with both a 2% and 2.5% increase for those employees who would not be receiving an increase due to the minimum wage hike.

On a motion made by Trustee Lark and seconded by Trustee Canty, the board exited Executive Session at 6:55 PM.

Period of Trustee Expression:

Period of Public Expression

Adjournment:

Upon a motion by Trustee Lark, and seconded by Trustee canty, the meeting was adjourned at 7:02 PM.

I hereby certify that the minutes were reviewed and approved at the February 20, 2024, board meeting by the Board of Trustees of the East Rockaway Public Library.

Cynthia Lark, Secretary