

Minutes of the Board of Trustees of the Manhasset Public Library

*Held at the Library in the second floor conference room on Wednesday, February 17, 2016.
Session called to order at 8.00 pm.*

Attendance

Board Members:

William McLean, President
Joanne L. Kesten, Vice President
Donald T. O'Brien, Treasurer
Robert Carrozzo, Trustee
Charles Jettmar, Trustee

Maggie Gough, Director
Roger Smith, Architect BBS
Harry Meyer, Accountant
Linda Palmieri, Principal Acct. Clerk
Charisse Relyveld- Osnato, Account Clerk
Ellen Majorana, Assist. to Director
Pascale Laforest, Secretary to the Board

Additional attendees:
Victoria Christie (MPL Staff)
Liz Travers (MPL Staff)

Roger Smith, BBS. Discussion with Roger Smith, library architect. At the second meeting with the Trustees, Roger Smith elaborated on proposed architectural services and the plan formulation processes available to the Trustees if they chose to move ahead with redesign or space repurposing plans. The Trustees requested additional clarification on services and specific information on cost which Mr Smith promised to provide. The Trustees engaged in extensive conversation. There was dissent among the Trustees. Joanne Kesten suggested that when engaging an architectural service, the opinions of the library staff and the community should be considered as part of the decision making process. Robert Carrozzo expressed concern regarding potential costs. The Director will forward BBS/Roger Smith's revised proposal when received for Trustee review.

Harry Meyer, Accountant. Harry Meyer was on hand to discuss the proposed budget. Using the worksheet developed by Harry, the Business Office Staff, Linda, Charisse and the Director

presented historically accurate projections which informed the proposed 2016-2017 budget funding. All questions were answered.

Proposed Operating Budget for 2016-2017:

Motion by Bill McLean, seconded by Donald O'Brien, to accept the proposed operating budget for 2016-2017 in the amount of \$5,242,419.00 and the amount to be raised by taxes of \$ 5,126,806.00 for consideration at the public hearing on March 30, 2016.

Resolution to exceed the tax cap:

In light of the uncertainties surrounding the implementation of the tax cap and the penalties which may be imposed if the cap is exceeded, the Board has voted unanimously to exceed the cap. The Board understands the importance of limiting budget increases and it is the Board's intention to comply with the tax cap by proposing a tax increase at or below the tax cap limit. The members of the Manhasset community will, of course, have the final say on the budget numbers which will be open, as always, to a final vote. We encourage the public to make their wishes known either by contacting the Library Trustees or at the ballot box on Election Day.

Whereas, the adoption of the 2016-17 budget for the Manhasset Public Library may require a tax levy increase that exceeds the tax cap imposed by state law as outlined in General Municipal Law Section 3-c adopted in 2011; and

Whereas, General Municipal Law Section 3-c expressly permits the library board to override the tax levy limit by a resolution approved by a vote of sixty percent of qualified board members; now therefore be it

Resolved, that the Board of Trustees of the Manhasset Public Library voted and approved to exceed the tax levy limit for 2016 by at least the sixty percent of the board of trustees as required by state law on February 17, 2016.

Motion by Bill McLean, seconded by Donald O'Brien to accept the decision to exceed the tax cap for the 2016-17 budget year.

Yes –McLean, Kesten, Carrozzo, O'Brien, Jettmar,
No – none

Minutes from previous sessions

Motion by Bill McLean, seconded by Chuck Jettmar, to accept January 21, 2016 Minutes.

Yes – McLean, Kesten, O’Brien, Carrozzo, Jettmar
No – none

Financial Reports and Vouchers

The vouchers listed below were audited by the Board of Trustees of the Manhasset Public Library on February 17, 2016, and are allowed in the amounts shown.

Linda Palmieri has been hereby authorized and directed to pay to each of the claimants the amount listed within each of the operating registers and payroll vouchers listed below:

Voucher # 659	01/28/2016	Payroll	\$74,029.12
Claims Warrant	02/10/2016	Operating	\$83,972.20
Voucher #660	02/11/2016	Payroll	\$69,495.92

Motion made by Bill McLean seconded by , to approve Vouchers in the amounts listed.

Yes –McLean, Kesten, Carrozzo, O’Brien, Jettmar
No – none

Administrative and Statistics Reports

- Director’s Report
- Reference Department
 - Web Resources
 - Overdrive Statistics (e-books, downloadable audiobooks)
- Children’s Department Report
 - Children’s Library Statistics
- Program Attendance Statistics

The Director responded to all questions.

Board structure: Joanne Kesten suggested that the Board consider enlarging the member size from 5 trustees to 7 trustees. She noted that several peer institution consisted of 7 member boards.

No approval was voiced by other Board members in support of this idea.

Old Business - *tabled*

New Business - *tabled*

Executive Session- *tabled*

Motion Bill McLean by seconded Chuck Jettmar by to adjourn made at 11:30pm.

The next regularly scheduled Board meeting will be Wednesday, March 30, 2016 at 7:00 pm in The Community Room

Respectfully submitted,

Pascale Laforest
Secretary to the Board