

Minutes of the Annual Budget Hearing and Meeting of the Board of Trustees of
the Manhasset Public Library
March 25, 2025

Held at the Library in the Community Room on Tuesday, March 25, 2025.
Session called to order at 7:10 pm.

Attendance

Board Members:

Charles Jettmar, President
Judith Esterquest, Vice President
Donald T. O'Brien, Financial Officer
Gloria Su, Trustee
Diane Klein, Trustee

Maggie Gough, Director
Maria Mignano, Assistant Director
Linda Palmieri, Principal Account Clerk
Stephanie Catlett, Secretary to the Board

Also present: Andrew Cronson
Patricia O'Brien
Sophie Seibert

President Charles Jettmar opened the Budget Hearing session:

"In keeping with established procedure, the Library is holding the Annual Budget hearing. The following is a presentation of the 2025-2026 Proposed Library Operating Budget with Debt Service."

Donald O'Brien used a PowerPoint presentation to illustrate the proposed 2025-2026 budget, a comparative overview and 2025-2026 breakdown. Following the power point presentation, Mr. O'Brien opened the meeting for discussion or questions from those present.

Members of the community were delighted with the 900 new library cards created in 2024-2025, but wondered if the building would withstand the influx of new patrons. The Library Director and Assistant Director explained that there has been a shift from virtual cards to physical cards to account for some of the increase. There has also been an influx of new families into the district. The Library has enough space for all and careful maintenance of the

physical building will provide for growth for years to come. All Staff and Administration are excited about the growth in patrons.

The Assistant Director remarked that some of the growth in patrons stems from increased outreach into the community, such as attending Manhasset Alfresco events. The Library is part of the Manhasset community.

Another question was in regard to programming, specifically more diverse programming. The Library Director responded that a new Program Coordinator has joined the Library staff. The Library has increased the number of exercise classes, to the delight of residents, as well as opened a game room and brought back musical programs on Sundays. Feedback from residents has been uniformly positive.

A member of the audience asked if Museum Passes were being used by the community. The Director answered that, yes, Museum Passes were very popular. The Library also offers a “Library of Things” and a “Seed Library” which are also extremely popular.

Motion to accept the budget followed.

Motion by Donald T. O’Brien, seconded by Judith Esterquest to adopt the 2025-2026 Library Budget with Debt Service in the total amount of **\$5,971,300**.

Yes - Jettmar, Esterquest, O’Brien, Su, Klein

No – none

Resumption of Meeting at 8:00 pm

Minutes from previous sessions

Motion by Donald T. O’Brien, seconded by Diane Klein to accept the Minutes dated January 14, 2025, as amended.

Yes – Jettmar, Esterquest, O’Brien, Su, Klein

No – none

Motion by Gloria Su, seconded by Charles Jettmar to accept the Minutes dated February 26, 2025.

Yes – Jettmar, Esterquest, O'Brien, Su, Klein

No - none

Financials, Reports and Vouchers

The Trustees reviewed and accepted Brian Cleary's Treasurer Reports of February 27, 2025 and March 13, 2025. The vouchers listed below were audited by the Board of Trustees of the Manhasset Public Library on March 25, 2025 and are allowed in the amounts shown.

Voucher #897	2/27/25	Payroll	\$ 85,610.50
Claims Warrant	2/27/25	A-Fund/General Operating	\$ 44,477.45
Voucher #898	3/13/25	Payroll	\$ 84,226.59
Claims Warrant	3/13/25	A-Fund/General Operating	\$ 131,238.30

Linda Palmieri has been hereby authorized and directed to pay to each of the claimants.

Motion made by Judith Esterquest, seconded by Donald T. O'Brien, to approve Vouchers in the amounts listed.

RESOLVED, that the Board ratifies and confirms the vouchers as stated.

Yes – Jettmar, Esterquest, O'Brien, Su, Klein

No – none

Director's Report – the Director answered all questions regarding her report.

Meet the Candidates Night: The League of Women Voters will moderate a Meet the Candidates night on Tuesday, April 1st at 7:00 pm. The three Trustee candidates, Vera Chen, Donald T. O'Brien and Sophie Seibert will be present.

Budget Vote and Trustee Election: The Director reminded the Trustees of the procedures for the upcoming April 8th Annual Budget Vote and Trustee Election. We will be using voting machines this year. On Tuesday morning, we will be conducting the final set up with the poll workers at 7:30am and open the polls at 8am. The polls will close at 9pm at which time the ballots will be counted. Attendance by Trustees is not required, however, a quorum is necessary in order to call a special meeting to confirm the vote after the count.

Civil Service Update: NLS's Director, Caroline Ashby received a letter from Civil Service Executive Director Carnell Foskey denying our request for the residency requirement waiver for librarian positions. NLS received 47 Library Board statements supporting the removal of the

Nassau residency requirement and together with the Civil Service Committee plan to re-submit the very popular request.

During a recent Library Advocacy session with Assemblyman Daniel Norber, the Nassau Civil Service response to the request to remove the residency requirement for library only titles was discussed. Mr. Norber requested contact information on the NLS and CS Committee as well as the specific documents declining the request. It is expected that the Assemblyman will work with the Member Libraries (MLD) to change the civil service residency requirement.

Library Advocacy: On March 14th, President Trump issued an Executive Order that called for the elimination of the Institute of Museum and Library Services. IMLS's largest program, the Grants to States Program, distributed federal funds and grants for use in public, school, academic and special libraries in each state.

Please note, that the Federal funding for IMLS does not directly impact our NLS which is primarily funded by the member Libraries. IMLS does provide the majority funding for the NYS Library which provides professional oversight as well as the grant distribution for statewide library projects. For New York State, the \$ 2.3 million in grants were distributed as National Leadership Grants that supported efforts like StoryCorps, Native American Library Services: Basic Grants (books, computer labs and early learning centers), and Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian.

Roof Project- Bid Update: So far, seven (7) contractors have picked up the bid documents. The next milestone in the bid process will be the site walk-through scheduled for Friday, March 28 at 10:00 am. As previously noted, the Bid opening will be on Friday, April 18th at 3:00 pm in the 2nd floor Conference Room and the Bid award meeting is scheduled for Friday, May 2nd at 1:00 pm, also in the Conference Room.

Board President Charles Jettmar thanked new Trustee candidate Sophie Seibert for her attendance and interest in serving the Manhasset community, and also thanked Donald T. O'Brien for his years of community service.

The next Board of Trustees meeting is scheduled on **Friday, May 2, 2025 at 1:00 pm.**

Motion to end the meeting made by Charles Jettmar and seconded by Donald T. O'Brien at 8:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephanie Catlett

Secretary to the Board