

BOARD OF TRUSTEES
HICKSVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY
HICKSVILLE, NEW YORK 11801

REGULAR MEETING

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 9, 2025
ADMINISTRATION BUILDING
7:30 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Hicksville Public Library Board of Trustees was called to order by President Joanne Curran Perrucci at 7:30 pm. Those present were: Mrs. D'Antonio, Mrs. Blitz, Mr. Munozospina, Ms. Acosta, Mr. Tenenbaum (counsel), Ms. Pichardo-Lloyd (treasurer), and Mrs. Strazzera (recording secretary). Also present were Mr. Joe Gangemella, Ms. Susan Sarandis, Mr. Joshua Smith, and Ms. Wendi Slavsky. Joining via zoom were Ms. Amanda DeLisi (zoom monitor) and Mrs. Marie Sutton. Mrs. Guida was absent with prior notice.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Ms. Acosta provided updates on state funding and advocacy efforts. Progress was made in addressing operating and construction funding needs, with both the Senate and Assembly proposing additional increases. She highlighted a productive meeting with Senator Steve Rhoades, who has a firm understanding of what libraries need and how important they are to their communities. He wrote a letter in support of increased library funding, which is included in the board packet. They also discussed the high costs of eBooks and audiobooks and explored potential strategies to reduce those expenses.

On the federal side, Ms. Acosta discussed the March 14th Executive Order to dismantle the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), which prompted lawsuits from 21 Attorneys General opposing the order due to its potentially devastating impact on communities. Nassau Library System (NLS) has drafted letters for collective library advocacy to preserve IMLS funding, which the Board needs to review and decide whether to support.

Ms. Acosta announced that the website officially launched on March 31. While there were a few minor issues early on, the launch went smoothly overall. The site remains a work in progress, with ongoing updates and pages still being developed. Staff from various departments have contributed significantly, making it a collaborative effort. She encouraged everyone to share any feedback or changes they notice as updates continue. Mr. Munozospina provided feedback on the website, suggesting that the information should be organized chronologically for

easier navigation. He recommended placing the current month's board meeting at the top and organizing past meetings in a clear, chronological format. Ms. Acosta acknowledged the feedback, noting that the website is still a work in progress and they plan to add more content, such as bios.

Ms. Acosta reported that while they had not heard back about the AV system's preliminary design at the time of her report, they were informed today, Wednesday, April 9, that it will be completed by Friday, April 11. Once received, the project can go out to bid, allowing for much-needed updates to the AV system.

Ms. Acosta noted that proposals for a new server are included in the board packet. Mr. Daniel Russ has been researching options and received input from several people, including Mr. Munozospina. Three quotes were gathered, with the third included in the addendum. Mr. Russ recommends purchasing through GovConnection, his preferred vendor.

Ms. Acosta shared that there's a new schedule for the restroom project. The bid notice will be published in the papers tomorrow, Thursday, April 10, with a walkthrough scheduled for Wednesday, April 16, bid opening on Thursday, April 24, and the contract award planned for the Special Board Meeting on Tuesday, May 6—pending confirmation of the meeting time.

Ms. Acosta shared updates on the café and outdoor patio project. She met with architect John Tanzi to discuss how to better accommodate the library's high traffic, especially after school, and make the outdoor space more usable for reading and programs. Mr. Tanzi is working on preliminary plans, and an authorization letter has been sent to Dr. Fulton and is currently under review by the school's attorney. As the library is part of a school district, any expenditure over \$10,000 requires School Board approval. They're also awaiting a proposal for an environmental consultant due to potential issues like lead. Ms. Acosta is beginning to explore potential vendor partnerships for operating the café.

Ms. Acosta provided an update on the new landscaper, noting that they are off to a great start. Mr. Gangemella agreed, adding that they are doing a great job and staying on top of everything. Ms. Acosta also commented on their strong communication and mentioned that the landscaper had indicated it will take some time to get the grounds to the desired condition, but they are actively working on it.

Ms. Acosta also brought up Civil Service matters for executive session. Additionally, she provided more details about the social worker intern, who is currently in their first or second year of college and will receive supervision, which consists of periodic check-ins rather than constant oversight. The intern program is offered through Adelphi and Stony Brook.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Mrs. Blitz made the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the board approves the Treasurer's Report dated March 31, 2025. Mrs. Curran Perrucci seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously.

LEGAL

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mrs. D'Antonio made the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the board approves the minutes of the March 12, 2025 regular board meeting as presented. Mr. Munozospina seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously.

PETTY CASH

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Mrs. Blitz made the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the board authorizes the payment of Warrant #776 ending March 31, 2025 in the amount of \$129,243.32 including checks numbered 6100 through 6163, Utilities in the amount of \$7,490.07, Petty Cash in the amount of \$26.31 with a total amount of \$136,759.71 from the TD Bank demand account. Mr. Munozospina seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously.

Mrs. Blitz made the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the board authorizes the Payroll Warrant from the TD Bank, Trust and Agency account with a monthly gross payroll of \$151,631.79, FICA and Medicare \$11,599.83, for a total of \$163,231.62 for the month ending March 31, 2025. Mr. Munozospina seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

CORRESPONDENCE

Incident reports dated 3/21/25 and 3/25/25 were included in the board packet and will be discussed in executive session.

FYI

The Budget Hearing:

Tuesday, May 6, 2025 at 7:30 pm in the Training Room

The Library Budget Vote:
and Trustee Election

Tuesday, May 20, 2025 from 7 am - 9 pm at
Hicksville Schools

NEW BUSINESS

Book Sale Discussion

Ms. Acosta discussed plans for an upcoming book sale, noting that some items were not donated to Better World Books and are available for the sale. The Board will need to make a decision whether to continue using suggested donations or set fixed prices for the books, as they are now paying tax on the donations. The Board has decided on setting a low price for books (\$0.25) and slightly higher prices for digital items (\$0.50).

2025 Federal Advocacy Letter

Mr. Munozospina made the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the board approves the signing of the 2025 Federal Advocacy Letter. Mrs. Curran Perrucci seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously.

Eden Brother's Gift Card

Mr. Munozospina made the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the board accepts the \$100 gift card from Eden Brothers to be used towards the seed library. Mrs. Blitz seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously.

New Server Proposal

The Board discussed three proposals for a new server, all similarly priced. Mr. Munozospina raised concerns about the \$15,000 cost, suggesting potential savings by purchasing hardware separately and obtaining software licenses through TechSoup, which offers significant discounts for nonprofits. He recommended checking if this cost-saving approach is possible. Ms. Acosta noted that the quoted price also includes support, which may justify the higher cost. Mr. Russ recommended going with GovConnection for a Lenovo server, as the library already uses Lenovo products. After discussion, the Board agreed to approve GovConnection's proposal, subject to looking into the pricing without the included software.

Mrs. D'Antonio made the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the board approved GovConnection's proposal for a Lenovo Server in the amount of \$15,323.36, subject to looking into the pricing without the included software. Mr. Munozospina seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously

Materials License

Mrs. Curran Perrucci made the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board approves the Material License dated April 1,2025. Mrs. D'Antonio seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously

Waiver of Residency Requirement Letter

Mr. Munozospina made the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the board approves signing a letter to Judge Foskey, requesting a waiver of residency requirements for the Librarian I title. Mrs. D'Antonio seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously

COMMUNITY COMMENTS

Ms. Wendi Slavsky inquired about the location of the new patio. Mrs. Curran Perrucci explained that it would be situated between the administration building and the library, near the vending machines area, with plans to install sliding doors and create an ADA-compliant patio space for events and activities. The project is still in early stages, involving architectural planning and environmental assessments. Ms. Slavsky also questioned the high landscaping costs and why the highest bidder was selected. Mrs. Curran Perrucci responded that the decision was based on experience, strong recommendations, and positive references.

PERSONNEL

Tabled for executive session.

PROGRAM AND STAFF REPORTS

The board appreciated all the staff reports that were received.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Ms. Pichardo-Lloyd, Mr. Gangemella, Ms. Sarandis, Mr. Smith, Ms. Slavsky, Ms. DeLisi, Mrs. Sutton, and Mrs. Strazzera exited as the board entered executive session.

Mrs. D'Antonio made the following motion at 8:13 pm:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the meeting of the board of trustees move into executive session for purposes of discussing personnel and civil service issue, two incident reports and an additional personnel issue with regards to administrative staff. Mrs. Blitz seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously.

Mr. Munozospina made the following motion at 9:12 pm:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the meeting of the board of trustees move out of executive session. Mrs. Curran Perrucci seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously.

PERSONNEL

1. Retirements: None

2. Resignations:

Mr. Munozospina made the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the board accepts the resignation of Roseann Acosta from the position of Assistant Library Director for the purpose of accepting the position of Library Director effective April 10, 2025. Mrs. D'Antonio seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously.

3. Appointments:

Mr. Munozospina made the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the board appoints of Roseann Acosta to the position of Library Director, subject to a memorandum of terms and conditions, setting forth the parameters of the position, at a salary of \$135,000 annually effective April 11, 2025. Mrs. D'Antonio seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously.

4. Terminations: None

FUTURE BOARD MEETING

On Tuesday, May 6, 2025 there will be a Special Board Meeting immediately following the 7:30pm Budget Hearing in the Training Room.

The next board meeting of the board of trustees will be held on Wednesday, May 21, 2025 at 7:30 pm.

ADJOURNMENT

Mrs. D'Antonio made the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the meeting of the board of trustees be adjourned at 9:16 pm. Mrs. Blitz seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted:

Carmela Strazzera