

# VALLEY COTTAGE LIBRARY

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Board of Trustees Meeting of the  
Valley Cottage Library  
Wednesday, February 21, 2024

## MINUTES

Present: Frank Dwyer, President  
Marge McLoughlin, Vice President  
Michael Mark, Treasurer  
Melissa L. Roy, Secretary  
Mary Fiore, Trustee  
Arlette Mooney, Trustee

Absent: Herb Lerner, Trustee – excused

Also attending: Christy Blanchette, Director  
Ashley Maraffino, Assistant Director

Public attending: Tim Englert  
Caroline Meyers  
Carida Ridoré

**1. Call to order** – Meeting called to order at 7:30pm by Frank.

**2. Public Comments** – Tim Englert said he was honored to build a Knickerbocker bench to be placed at the library in honor of a deceased Valley Cottage resident and Valley Cottage Library lover.

### **7. Board Reports & New Business**

#### Webster Bank visit –

Tom Nash from Webster Bank explained how the bank protects the library's funds through a collateral agreement.

### **3. Approval of January 17, 2024 Minutes**

**Moved by Arlette Mooney and seconded by Marge McLoughlin the following resolution:**

**RESOLVED**, to accept the Minutes of the January 17, 2024 library Board Meeting.

Motion passes 6-0.

Approved March 20, 2024

#### 4. President's Report –

Frank thanked Christy for helping him get up to speed as the new Board President. He reminded trustees of the New York State training requirement. He also referenced the recent library budget vote and thanked those trustees who attended the budget workshop.

#### 5. Director's Report – On file for review.

#### 6. Treasurer's Report

**Moved by Mary Fiore and seconded by Arlette Mooney the following resolution:**

**RESOLVED**, that the Board of Trustees of the Valley Cottage Library accepts the Treasurer's Report dated January 31, 2024, and approves the attached vouchers.

Motion passes 6-0.

#### 7. Board Reports and New Business

##### Committee Assignment review –

Frank indicated that prior Board committee appointments were suspended and identified the composition of new Board committees. Committee composition will be reviewed every January.

Committee Name	Committee Composition
Building and Grounds	Marge McLoughlin, Melissa Roy, and Mary Fiore
Planning and Goals	Melissa Roy, Arlette Mooney, and Mary Fiore
Bylaws	Arlette Mooney, Marge McLoughlin, and Michael Mark
Finance and Personnel	Michael Mark and Frank Dwyer

He also noted that as Board President he is an ex officio member of all Board committees.

##### Building Committee –

Christy shared a diagram of the proposed renovation. She explained that to move forward with the project, the library needed to engage Michael Esmay, the architect, to render detailed drawings. The drawings will be used to apply for a construction grant. Christy planned to contact the architect to learn the anticipated fee for the drawings.

**Moved by Marge McLoughlin and seconded by Michael Mark the following resolution:**

**RESOLVED**, that on recommendation of the Library Director, the Board of Trustees of the Valley Cottage Library approves the renovation of the teen space and reference desk and addition of Zoom meeting rooms.

Motion passes 6-0.

##### Library Card policy –

**Moved by Michael Mark and seconded by Mary Fiore the following resolution:**

**RESOLVED**, that on recommendation of the Library Director, the Board of Trustees of the Valley Cottage Library approved the Library Card Policy, as amended.

Motion passes 6-0.

Knickerbocker tribute bench donation –

Arlette explained that Billy Berman plans to donate a Knickerbocker bench to the library in memory of her husband, who was a lover/user of the Valley Cottage Library. Tim Englert explained that the bench design is inspired by the ice at Rockland Lake.

Resignation of Herb Lerner –

Frank reported that Herb plans to mail his letter of resignation.

**8. Old Business –**

Nyack School District vote request –

The Superintendent of the Nyack School District emailed Christy that the district was willing to accept the library's conditions to host the school vote.

**Moved by Mary Fiore and seconded by Arlette Mooney the following resolution:**

**RESOLVED**, that on recommendation of the Library Director, the Board of Trustees of the Valley Cottage Library approved the library to host the school vote for Valley Cottage residents of the Nyack School District.

Motion passes 5-0-1.

June Board meeting – select date or cancel – tabled

**9. Workshop Items – none**

**10. Statistics – reviewed**

**11. Adjournment**

**Moved by Arlette Mooney and seconded by Marge McLoughlin**

To adjourn the meeting.

Motion passes: 6-0.

Meeting adjourned at 9:01pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Melissa L. Roy, Secretary