

LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
MEETING MINUTES  
Wednesday, December 27, 2023  
Recorded virtual meeting

President Nick Ciampa called the meeting to order at 5:50 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Nick stated that the virtual meeting was being held in compliance with the **Open Public Meetings Act**.

**Roll Call:**

Kevin McNeil	<i>absent</i>	Nicholas Ciampa	<i>present</i>	Nabil Choueiri (NBC)	<i>present</i>
Iris Kislin	<i>present</i>	Mayor Kramer	<i>present</i>	Amy Arsiwala	<i>absent</i>
Tianna Gresham	<i>present</i>	Agnes Kulu-Banya	<i>present</i>		
January Adams	<i>present</i>				

Nick opened the meeting to public comment. There being no comments, the meeting was closed to public comments.

Iris motioned to approve the minutes of the November 15 meeting. NBC seconded and all were in favor.

**Director's Report:**

January presented the financial reports of the **Director's report** for the month of November. The financial reports were filed for audit.

January highlighted various aspects of the narrative section of her monthly report. She noted that:

- The library had received two positive comments from patrons during the month.
- Virtual meetings continued to take place for the library's upcoming ILS migration and the library is ahead of schedule.
- The Adult Services Department held 50 adult programs that 728 people attended.
- The Youth Services Department held 42 in-house programs that 1,195 people attended.
- Representatives from All-Action had returned to the library on December 12 to finalize measurements for the Gallery roof replacement. A change order to replace the deteriorating Butterfly Garden Roof has been proposed. January and library staff will research this proposal.
- All three winter reading programs started on December 18.

**President's Report:**

None

**Correspondence and communications:**

- "Re-ignite Reading," by Hallie Rich, *Library Journal*, p. 6, December 2023
- "Under-40s Visit Libraries for Browsing, Programs," by Matt Enis, p.8, *Library Journal*, December 2023

**Old Business:**

None

**New Business:**

The following resolution was presented:

**WHEREAS**, the Franklin Township Public Library Board of Trustees has general library and other public sector legal matters that must be referred to legal counsel; and

**WHEREAS**, the Local Public Contracts Law (N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et. seq.) requires that the award of a contract hiring a professional for professional services without competitive bids must be approved by a resolution passed by the governing body, and that notice of the contract award must be printed once in the governing body’s official newspaper; and

**WHEREAS**, Douglas S. Zucker, Esq. is an attorney in good standing in the State of New Jersey; and

**WHEREAS**, Douglas S. Zucker, Esq. has the requisite background and experience to advise the Franklin Township Public Library Board of Trustees on the aforesaid legal matters.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Franklin Township Public Library Board of Trustees that Douglas S. Zucker, Esq., of Weiner Law Group LLP, located in Parsippany NJ, be appointed Library Attorney to the Franklin Township Public Library for a one-year term commencing on January 1, 2024 at a fee of \$185.00 per hour; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Board of Trustees authorizes the Library Director to publish notice of the award of this contract in accordance with applicable law.

The aforesaid resolution was moved by NBC and seconded by Iris.

Roll call vote:

Nicholas Ciampa	<i>yes</i>	Nabil Choueiri (NBC)	<i>yes</i>	
Iris Kislin	<i>yes</i>	Tianna Gresham	<i>yes</i>	Agnes Kulu-Banya <i>yes</i>

Mayor Kramer asked board members if he could invite an electric charger station vendor to give a presentation at the next board meeting as he thought it would be a good public service to offer at the Franklin Park branch location, adding that there were currently no chargers in the southern part of the township. A brief discussion of various issues connected with installing and maintaining such chargers followed with all in favor of learning more from vendors. The Mayor will follow up on such a presentation.

Nick opened the meeting to public comment. There being no comments, the meeting was closed to public comments.

**The next meeting** will be January 24, 2024 via Zoom.

Iris motioned to adjourn, Agnes seconded, all were in favor and the meeting was adjourned at 6:09.

January Adams  
Director of Library Services