

**Phoenicia Library Board of Trustees**  
**Minutes from Library Board Meeting on April 20, 2023**  
Minutes prepared by Holly George-Warren

**Present:** Holly George-Warren, Bethia Waterman, & Bernard Handzel  
Elizabeth Potter, Library Director; Manuela Jean-Pierre, community member.

Motion to approve agenda by made by Bernie, seconded by Holly; all in favor.

Motion to approve the minutes from March meeting by Bernie, seconded by Bethia. All in favor.

**ACTION ITEM:** Bernard Handzel made a motion to approve the Tax Cap Override Resolution, Holly 2<sup>nd</sup>, all in favor, as follows:

Whereas, the adoption of the 2024 budget for the Phoenicia 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 Phoenicia Library voted and approved to exceed the tax levy limit for 2024 by at least the sixty percent of the board of trustees as required by state law on April 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

Voting: All in favor of the resolution: 3 (of 5) members of the Phoenicia Library Board present at meeting: Bernard Handzel, Holly George-Warren, Bethia Waterman.

**ACTION ITEM:** Bernard made a motion to approve a Petition for the Town of Shandaken 414 support of the Phoenicia Library to be placed upon the ballot and voted on at the next general election of the TOWN OF SHANDAKEN on November 7, 2023, as follows:

- SHALL THE TOWN OF SHANDAKEN INCREASE ITS ANNUAL CONTRIBUTION FOR THE
- OPERATING BUDGET OF THE PHOENICIA LIBRARY BY SEVENTEEN THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED FIFTY (\$17,750) DOLLARS TO THE SUM OF ONE HUNDRED NINETY-NINE THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED FIFTY (\$199,750) DOLLARS ANNUALLY?

Bethia 2<sup>nd</sup>, all in favor.

**Director's Report:**

Our circulation is now 20% electronic, so we'll begin purchasing some eBooks and audiobooks, per MHLs request.

**Treasurer's Report:**

Becca sent the bank balances, and Liz sent the general fund budget.

**Committee Reports:**

414: Bernie will attend the Pine Hill Library meeting to discuss the 414. Discussed petitions and our need to get approx. 200 signatures in person.

**New Business:**

Bethia met with new staff to discuss angling collection. The newly redesigned (by Stephanie Blackman) angling collection newsletter will be distributed soon.

**Unfinished Business:**

Holly, Nancy Bell and Don Casale are discussing a tree to plant in Marvella's memory; a follow-up: a pink dogwood, *Cornus florida rubra*, which is a cultivar of the native dogwood, was planted by Nancy and her husband in the Library's back garden. Holly is looking into ordering a plaque for the tree.

**Public Comment:**

Manuela discussed the upcoming Pine Hill summer camp (which Phoenicia Library helped with last summer) and gave us info from an environmental group for children from the Bronx.

**Next meeting date: May 18, 2023, at 6 pm.**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:05 pm on a motion by Bernie, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bethia; all in favor.