

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE JERICHO PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF
TRUSTEES APRIL 15, 2025**

CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Jacobson called the meeting to order at 4:08 pm in the Meeting Room.

Present were Ms. Jacobson, Ms. Dolowich, Mr. Weinstock, and Ms. Cinquemani, Director. Mr. Truncale, Counsel, present via phone call. Ms. Smith, Ms. Cole, and Ms. Medina, Clerk of the Board, were absent with prior notice.

Mr. Robert Johnson and Mr. Justin Smith from L2J Technologies were present.

PUBLIC HEARING

There is a 3-minute time limit per individual in each period.

MINUTES

- A. On a motion made by Mr. Weinstock and seconded by Ms. Jacobson, the Board approved the revised meeting minutes of March 10, 2025.

Yes – 3

No – 0

DEPARTMENT HEAD

N/A.

COMMUNICATIONS

N/A.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Authorizations for Payment were individually examined and approved by the Board as follows:

- A. #2025 - 9 for \$69,899.14 - moved by Ms. Jacobson and seconded by Ms. Dolowich.

Yes – 3

No – 0

April 15, 2025

- B. #2025 – 9B for \$280,952.11 – moved by Ms. Jacobson and seconded by Ms. Dolowich.

Yes – 3

No – 0

COMMITTEE REPORTS

N/A.

DIRECTOR' S REPORT

BUDGET- The Jericho School District Board of Education has authorized the Jericho Public Library proposed budget and tax levy for fiscal year 2025/2026 to be reflected in the voting machines on May 20, 2025, in the Gymnasium of the Jericho High School between 6:00 AM and 9:00 PM. The budget hearing is scheduled for May 13, 2025 at 7:00 PM in the High School Little Theater. Budget information is posted on the library website and copies can be requested at the second floor Reference desk.

MUSEUM PASSES- The Heckscher Museum of Art has a new grant in place from Bank of America so Jericho patrons can visit for free, with no pass required. Harbes Farm introduced a new pay structure requiring the library to purchase a costly pass (which in the past covered all admission fees)- library patrons must present the pass and pay a discounted admission fee. Nassau Libraries have not renewed the Harbes Farm pass and we have collectively expressed our deep dissatisfaction with this model. The Long Island Children's Museum is now a print on demand pass admitting 2 visitors per pass (reduced from 6). Once again, Nassau Libraries contacted the museum to express frustration with this change. To date the museums have not changed their stance.

SAFETY- Syosset Public Library, our neighboring library, received two bomb threats by phone. The perpetrator was found and apprehended. It is believed that these were isolated incidents. The Jericho Library safety committee reviewed and updated our safety procedures. We conducted a fire drill on April 8 and successfully evacuated patrons and staff from the building.

NYS ANNUAL REPORT- The New York State annual report has been finalized and sent to the Nassau Library System for review. The report is then submitted to New York State. Many thanks to Ms. Fran Medina and our library staff members for calculating and entering the data needed.

April 15, 2025

CAPITAL PROJECTS COMMITTEE- The committee is reviewing the previously proposed referendum, the library building survey outlining necessary upgrades and repairs, other ideas for the library building, costs, potential funding opportunities, and a potential timeline. This will require time to research and discuss.

IMLS- An executive order that aims to dismantle IMLS (Institute of Museum and Library Services) to the extent practicable by law, was signed in March. IMLS is the sole federal agency responsible for funding library services nationwide. Most IMLS staff have been placed on administrative leave and processing of all grants has stopped. While the Jericho Library does not receive funding directly from IMLS, the State Library and other library programs we rely on do operate with IMLS funding. The NYS budget will likely still include Construction Aid for public libraries, but the applications may not be able to be processed by the state library in a timely manner. Likewise, the distribution of state operating aid to NLS and individual libraries could be delayed or lose appropriate oversight. Ms. Cinquemani is submitting requests for library construction aid for the coming fiscal year and will keep the Board informed as this evolves.

LIBRARY ADVOCACY- Ms. Cinquemani participated in a virtual meeting with Senator Jack Martins (District 7). In attendance were other Nassau Library Directors as well as the Director of the Nassau Library System (NLS), Ms. Caroline Ashby. Topics of discussion included concerns regarding the New York State budget and library construction aid, IMLS, as well as Civil Service challenges. We appreciate all assistance in support of Nassau libraries and the communities we serve.

NASSAU COUNTY CIVIL SERVICE LETTER- For the last few years Ms. Cinquemani has been communicating the challenges the library has faced in hiring new staff members and the limitations of the current Nassau County Civil Service canvass lists. There is good news. Executive Director Carnell Foskey and various Civil Service personnel have agreed to support a two-year residency waiver pilot for the Librarian I title. The Librarian I exam would be opened to residents of Westchester, the 5 boroughs of NYC, and Suffolk. In order to get this approval on the agenda of an upcoming Civil Service Commissioners' meeting, they will need letters from individual libraries making the request and providing supporting evidence that are signed by the Board President. Please see the attached letter for review and approval.

BUILDING & GROUNDS- The Children's room has been given a fresh coat of paint in the storytime area and we look forward to adding decorative touches. Carpets in the library were shampooed and steamed by Rainbow Maintenance.

EMAIL NEWSLETTER & PROGRAMS- We encourage the Jericho community to take advantage of our wide variety of educational and recreational programs at the library.

April 15, 2025

Please check our monthly calendar for the latest information:

<https://www.jericholibrary.org/events/month>

Patrons can check our event calendar and see when our Meeting Room on the first floor is available for shared public use.

LIBRARY USAGE AND STATISTICS SNAPSHOT (DIRECT ACCESS) MARCH 2025

CHILDREN'S DEPT PROGRAMS- 23
CHILDREN'S DEPT ATTENDEES- 431

TEEN DEPT PROGRAMS- 7
TEEN DEPT ATTENDEES- 84

ADULT DEPT PROGRAMS- 65
ADULT DEPT ATTENDEES- 1383

NEW LIBRARY CARDS- 50

LIBRARY VISITORS- 7294

WIFI SESSIONS- 56,482

WEBSITE USERS- 4216

CIRCULATION CHECKOUTS- 12,399

SOCIAL MEDIA FOLLOWERS:

FACEBOOK- 1073
INSTAGRAM- 1162
TIKTOK- 625
TWITTER (X)- 395
YOUTUBE- 138

HIGHLIGHTS:

JERICHO HALL OF FAME- Congratulations to the 2025 Jericho Hall of Fame inductees: Max Motschwiller, Jesse Neuman, John Pellicone, and Leslie Sack. We always enjoy hosting this wonderful annual community event.

NEW & EXCITING PROGRAMS: We are getting positive feedback on some of our new and exciting programs which include Paint Night, Comedy Performance, Walking Club, Bond

April 15, 2025

with Your Teen Trivia Night (27 attendees!), movies, and Book Chat & Paint program. Come to the library and explore our programs and events!

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

N/A.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. On a motion made by Mr. Weinstock and seconded by Ms. Jacobson, the Board approved the letter to Nassau County Civil Service in support of the Librarian I residency waiver.

Yes – 3

No – 0

- B. Next Board meeting date is Monday, May 12, 2025, at 4:00 PM in the Meeting Room.

PERSONNEL

- A. On a motion made by Ms. Jacobson and seconded by Ms. Dolowich, the Board approved the appointment of Jean King, Part Time Librarian I, at the starting hourly rate as discussed in executive session, and pending civil service approval.

Yes – 3

No – 0

SECOND PUBLIC HEARING

There is a 3-minute time limit per individual in each period.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

April 15, 2025

- A. On a motion made by Ms. Jacobson and seconded by Ms. Dolowich, the Board entered executive session at 4:09 pm.

Yes – 3

No – 0

- B. On a motion made by Ms. Jacobson and seconded by Ms. Dolowich, the Board exited executive session at 5:24 pm.

Yes – 3

No – 0

ADJOURNMENT

- A. On a motion made by Ms. Jacobson and seconded by Ms. Dolowich, the Board adjourned at 6:02 pm.

Yes – 3

No – 0

Respectfully submitted,

Gloria Jacobson, President

Angela Cinquemani, Director