

**Rye Public Library  
Board of Trustees – Minutes  
Public Session  
October 13, 2021**

Present: Trustees Victor Azzi, Jeffrey Ross, Christine LeBlond, Michael Moody and JoAnn Hodgdon and Director Andrew Richmond

The meeting was called to order by the Chair, Jeff Ross, at 1:00 PM. The Pledge of Allegiance was waived.

Guest Karen Andronaco of Partners Bank appeared before the Board and briefly described some of the bank's services with an eye toward working with the library. The Board will discuss this further at the November meeting. Ms. Andronaco left the meeting.

**Approval of Meeting Minutes:**

At 1:12 Mr. Moody moved to approve the amended minutes of the September 15<sup>th</sup> meeting. Mr. Ross seconded. The Board was polled and all were in favor.

**Donations:**

A donation of \$10,000.00 was received from the Brown Foundation and a donation of \$1000.00 was received from the Winebaum Charitable Fund, specifically for landscaping the Library Common. Ms. LeBlond will send thank you notes to both donors.

**New Business:**

The Board reviewed Director Richmond's draft of 2022 budget in preparation for the November 18<sup>th</sup> Budget Committee workshop. Salary and benefits down slightly due to retirements in 2020; the merit increase is established. The amount for contracted services is less than what the library had been paying the custodian. There are some operational line-item adjustments with a resulting in .7% growth over last year. Director Richmond will submit the budget to go through the Select Board and Budget Committee.

**Library Common Planning:**

The Board met with the Rye Town Center Committee on October 6<sup>th</sup> to present the concept for the Library Common. The RTCC received the concept enthusiastically, voted unanimously to support it, and agreed to write a letter to the Select Board to express this support.

Chairman Ross discussed the concept with Select Board member Bill Epperson, who suggested that the Trustees request time on the agenda for an upcoming Select Board meeting. This meeting can to be held in the Community Meeting Room of the library, where the Trustees can share the concept and present the sketches.

Mr. Azzi will direct Jonathan Halle, the architect, to begin developing more specific ideas for the executing the concept for the Library Common. The Trustees will be looking to meet with him to discuss those ideas before the next Advisory Committee meeting, scheduled for November 18<sup>th</sup> at 6:30.

**Adjournment**

At 2:45 Mr. Moody moved that the Board adjourn. Mr. Ross seconded. The Board was polled and all were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,  
Christine LeBlond  
Secretary  
October 20, 2021

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