

The 887th Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Elmont Memorial Public Library, Elmont Union Free School District, Town of Hempstead, Nassau County, New York was held at the Elmont Memorial Public Library on September 25, 2025.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Ms. Ellice Bekier, Board President.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Ms. Ellice Bekier, President
Ms. Gina Burnett, Vice President
Ms. Monique Hardial
Ms. Natasha Warburton Welch

MEMBERS ABSENT: Ms. Mimi Pierre Johnson (prior notice given)
Ms. Elizabeth Forbes (prior notice given)
Ms. Suzanne Schatz (prior notice given)

ALSO PRESENT: Ms. Jean Simpson, Library Director
Mr. Frank Marino, Business Manager
Ms. Catherine Antioco, Library Board Clerk

PUBLIC: There were no members of the public present.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Ms. Bekier moved to go into Executive Session at 7:00 p.m. to discuss ongoing union negotiations. Seconded by Ms. Hardial.

Unanimously carried.

The meeting reconvened at 7:15 p.m.

SALUTE TO THE FLAG

Agenda Items Only

No discussion.

Meeting Room or Theater Requests

There were no meeting room or theater requests for the Board's attention.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Minutes of the Meeting of August 28, 2025

Ms. Burnett moved to approve the Minutes of the Meeting of August 28, 2025. Seconded by Ms. Hardial.

Unanimously carried.

FINANCE

Warrants

Ms. Burnett moved to approve Payroll Warrant #2882 dated August 31, 2025 in the amount of \$54,440.78. Seconded by Ms. Hardial.

Unanimously carried.

Ms. Burnett moved to approve Bill Warrant 2883 dated September 8, 2025 in the amount of \$40,561.65. Seconded by Ms. Hardial.

Unanimously carried.

Ms. Burnett moved to approve Payroll Warrant 2884 dated September 14, 2025 in the amount of \$58,353.30. Seconded by Ms. Hardial.

Unanimously carried.

Ms. Burnett moved to approve Bill Warrant #2885 dated September 25, 2025 in the amount of \$71,917.65. Seconded by Ms. Hardial.

Unanimously carried.

Ms. Burnett moved to approve Board Appointees Warrant #2886 dated October 1, 2025 in the amount of \$15,261.51. Seconded by Ms. Hardial.

Unanimously carried.

Ms. Burnett moved to approve the Amazon Expense Report for the period July 19, 2025 to September 11, 2025. Seconded by Ms. Hardial.

Unanimously carried.

Ms. Burnett moved to approve the Credit Card expense report for the period August 7, 2025 to August 26, 2025. Seconded by Ms. Hardial.

Unanimously carried

The Trustees reviewed the Monthly Position Paper for the period August 23, 2025 to September 18, 2025.

LIBRARY DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Ms. Simpson reported.

The Trustees were in possession of Ms. Simpson's report dated September 18, 2025. Also provided was the Personnel Report and reports from the Adult Reference Department, Young Adult's Department and Children's Services Department.

Discussion regarding the ILS & Associated Services Budget for 2026. Upon review of the Proposed Schedule of Fees, the Trustees approved the following resolution:

Ms. Burnett moved that the Board of Trustees of the Elmont Public Library, upon due consideration of the proposed 2026 ILS & Associated Services Budget and Participating Libraries Schedule of Fees for 2026, hereby resolves to vote against said recommended budget and schedule of fees and hereby appoints Ms. Jean Simpson to submit this authorization to NLS prior to November 20, 2025. Seconded by Ms. Hardial.

Unanimously carried.

A letter explaining the Library's position will be sent to NLS.

IT Update: Muzzy, College Now and Help Now databases have been added to our website.

The new screen in the sensory room has been installed and will be up and running next week.

Brief discussion regarding the library's 4.5 out of 5 overall excellent rating from our patrons on all social media.

The Annual Legislative Breakfast will be held at NLS on October 23, 2025.

Ms. Simpson provided the Trustees with dates for the upcoming trustee training sessions.

Discussion regarding the upcoming November El-CON Event. This Library-wide event will have activities and programs for all ages.

Ms. Simpson brought the Trustees up to date on the ongoing projects that keep the Library both educationally and aesthetically pleasing for all our patrons.

In accordance with Ms. Simpson's recommendation,

Ms. Burnett moved to hire Toni Ann Kaminski, Librarian I Part-time, effective September 5, 2025 at an hourly rate of \$28.00. Seconded by Ms. Hardial.

Unanimously carried.

ADVANCED CONSULTING CORPORATION

Mr. Marino reported.

He referred to the letter received from H2M Architects and Engineers explaining that the roofing replacement and solar photovoltaic system as proposed meets the definition of a Type II action under SEQRA and therefore is not subject to SEQRA review. It was recommended that the Library submit a resolution that establishes that fact and is therefore not subject to SEQRA review.

Ms. Burnett moved as follows:

WHEREAS the Board of Trustees of the Elmont Public Library desires to embark upon a Roofing Renovation and Solar Photovoltaic System project at the Elmont Public Library; and

WHEREAS, the proposed project at the Elmont Public Library is subject to classification under the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA); and

WHEREAS, in Section 617.5(a) the SEQRA Regulations define Type II Actions to be actions that have no significant impact on the environment and require no further review under SEQRA; and

WHEREAS, the scope of this Proposed Project has been examined by the Board of Trustees and has been found to fall within the action types that are included in the SEQRA Type II Actions, specifically, Sections 617.5(c)(2 & 10) which reads as follows “routine activities such as maintenance or repair involving no substantial changes in an existing structure or facility; and replacement, rehabilitation of a structure or facility, in kind, on the same site, including upgrading buildings to meet building or fire codes, unless such action meets or exceeds any of the thresholds in section 617.4 of this part;”and “routine activities of educational institutions, including expansion of existing facilities by less than 10,000 square feet of gross floor area and school closings, but not changes in use related to such closings”; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees hereby declares itself lead agency in connection with the requirements of the State Environmental Quality Review Act; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees hereby declares that the Proposed Project is a Type II Action which requires no further review under SEQRA; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees hereby shall forward an official copy of this Resolution to the New York State Education Department together with a copy of the correspondence from the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation in connection with its request for approval of the listed projects from the New York State Education Department.

Seconded by Ms. Hardial.

Unanimously carried.

The union negotiator has not scheduled a date to continue negotiations.

Update on the emergency lighting fixtures throughout the Library.

The 2024/2025 managerial audit should be finished by the Library’s accounting firm in the next month or so.

Due to the small amount of paper supplies we needed this year, we did not go out to bid as in the past.

We received the first check for the 2025/2026 fiscal year from the Empire State Development Funding Agreement in the amount of \$16,054.17, which is a 19% increase from last year.

LEGAL

There was no report from the Board’s attorneys.

CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence was reviewed prior to the meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

A thank you letter was received from a graduated student from Sewanhaka High School for the Library's Scholarship award.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business for the Board's attention.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business for the Board's attention.

PUBLIC

There were no members of the public present.

OTHER

There as no additional business brought before the Board.

ADJOURNMENT

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Trustees will be held on Thursday, October 23, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. at the Elmont Memorial Public Library. If necessary, the Board will convene into Executive Session at 7:00 p.m. followed by public session.

Ms. Burnett moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:50 p.m. Seconded by Ms. Hardial.

Unanimously carried.

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Respectfully submitted,


Catherine Antioco, Library Board Clerk