

Hamilton Township Public Library Board of Trustees Minutes of the Special Meeting called by the Board President, held on Tuesday, January 18, 2022 7:00 p.m. This public meeting is taking place, in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, via the Zoom audio and video-conference platform. All meetings of this group will be audio recorded.

Members Present: Mr. Santamaria, Mr. Atkin, Ms. Bradley, Ms. DeAngelo, Mr. Gedeika, Ms. Tonti, Ms. Rogers, and Library Director, Mr. Chianese

Public Comment

Mr. Santamaria opened the meeting and public comment section, noting that this Special Meeting was called to hear staff concerns regarding the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and related safety protocols at the Library. A written list of concerns and suggestions were provided to the Board by Library personnel prior to the meeting.

Concerns were shared, in turn, by:

Ms. Mary Lopez

Ms. Stacey Lytle

Colleen Affrime

Diane Weinreb

In summary, concerns raised by various staff members included: the current peak in COVID-19 cases, clarification and enforcement of the mask policy, types and effectiveness of masks and face coverings, disinfection of surfaces, challenges of social distancing while assisting patrons, protocol for visibly/audibly ill patrons, shared office spaces, and handling confrontational patrons.

Suggestions made by various staff members included: clarification of acceptable types of masks, additional disinfection of surfaces, reinstatement of physical barriers, testing, reinstate appointments for computer use, reinstate thermometer at the Library entrance.

Noting that personnel matters were raised in the public comment period, Mr. Santamaria entertained a motion to move to Executive

Session to discuss crisis management and personnel concerns. The motion to enter Executive Session was made by Mr. Gedeika, and seconded by Ms. Tonti. An objection was made by Mr. Atkin.

Voting Yea: Mr. Santamaria, Ms. Bradley, Ms. DeAngelo, Mr. Gedeika, Ms. Tonti, Ms. Rogers

Voting Nay: Mr. Atkin

EXECUTIVE SESSION

was entered at 8:25 PM, and exited at 8:47 PM

Mr. Atkin restated his objection to the Executive Session, citing N.J.S.A. 10:4-7 of New Jersey's Open Public Meetings Act.

ADJOURNMENT

Hearing no more business, Ms. Tonti moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:48 pm. The next Board of Trustees meeting will be held on Monday, January 24, 2022, at 5:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Renee Rogers
Secretary