

**MINUTES  
SPECIAL MEETING  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
THE SMITHTOWN LIBRARY  
January 4, 2023**

A SPECIAL meeting of the Board of Trustees of The Smithtown Library was held on the 4th day of January, 2023, immediately following the annual Organizational meeting. The meeting was called to order at 6:45 p.m.

The following trustees were present and participating at the meeting: Brianna Baker-Stines, Mildred Bernstein, Annette Galarza, Howard Knispel and Thomas Maher (note: at the present time there are two open seats on the Library Board created by the resignations of Marilyn LoPresti, effective 9/20/22, and Theresa Grisafi, effective 12/30/22).

Also in attendance were Library Director Robert Lusak, Assistant Library Director Patricia Thomson, Treasurer Kevin Miller, Clerk Lauren Gunderson and Secretary Linda Taurassi.

Brianna Baker-Stines, President of the Board of Trustees, acted as Chairman of the meeting.

The board deliberated and took action upon the following matters:

1. RESIGNATION – Library Trustee - Theresa Grisafi

Library Board President Brianna Baker-Stines moved to approve the adoption of the following resolution:

*RESOLVED, that the resignation of Theresa Grisafi, as a member of the Board of Trustees of The Smithtown Library, as evidenced by an emailed resignation letter dated December 30, 2022 (appended), is hereby accepted; and be it*

*RESOLVED, that the Clerk is hereby instructed to notify Theresa Grisafi of the Library Board's acceptance; and be it*

*FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of The Smithtown Library extends a unanimous vote of thanks to Theresa Grisafi for her dedicated service to the community and wishes her well in all future endeavors.*

The motion was seconded by Trustee Thomas Maher and adopted 5-0 by the following roll call vote:

FOR—Baker-Stines, Bernstein, Galarza, Knispel, Maher; AGAINST—none

2. DISCUSSION – Trustee Vacancies

The Library Board discussed some of the desired qualifications of potential board members who would be filling the two vacant seats on the Board.

- Library Board President Brianna Baker-Stines made a motion to nominate **Anita Dowd-Neufeld** to fill the open seat vacated by Marilyn LoPresti's resignation. The motion to accept the nomination of Anita Dowd-Neufeld to fill the open seat vacated by Marilyn LoPresti was seconded by Trustee Annette Galarza and adopted by the following roll-call vote:

FOR—Baker-Stines, Bernstein, Galarza, Knispel, Maher; AGAINST—none

- At 6:54 p.m Library Board President Brianna Baker-Stines moved to enter executive session (pursuant to Article 7, Section 105 "F" of the Public Officer's Law) to discuss matters leading to the appointment of a particular person. The motion was seconded by Trustee Thomas Maher and adopted 5-0 by the following roll call vote:

FOR—Baker-Stines, Bernstein, Galarza, Knispel, Maher; AGAINST—none

The following trustees were present and participating in executive session: Brianna Baker-Stines, Mildred Bernstein, Annette Galarza, Howard Knispel and Thomas Maher

Also present were Library Director Robert Lusak, Assistant Library Director Patricia Thomson and Clerk Lauren Gunderson.

- At 7:49 p.m. Library Board President Brianna Baker-Stines made a motion to reconvene in open public session. The motion was seconded by Trustee Thomas Maher and adopted 5-0 by the following roll call vote:

FOR—Baker-Stines, Bernstein, Galarza, Knispel, Maher; AGAINST—none

- Library Board President Brianna Baker-Stines reported that a notice pertaining to the Library's vacant Board seat would be put on the Library's website and social media instructing potential candidates to submit a one-page summary before the deadline of January 12, 2023, explaining why they are interested in serving on the Library's Board of Trustees. The Library Board will review all applications received and three applicants will be chosen for interview.

- RESOLUTION: 2023 Yearly Planner

Library Board President Brianna Baker-Stines moved to approve the adoption of the following resolution:

*RESOLVED, that the 2023 YEARLY PLANNER be approved as presented (appended).*

(Note: due to the Library's budget and trustee election in October, the October regular board meeting is held on the fourth Tuesday of the month instead of the third Tuesday as per Library Board of Trustees resolution dated September 27, 2007).

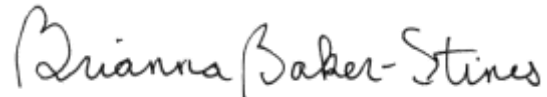
The motion was seconded by Trustee Howard Knispel and adopted 5-0 by the following roll call vote:

FOR—Baker-Stines, Bernstein, Galarza, Knispel, Maher; AGAINST—none

8. It was noted by Library Director Robert Lusak that Suffolk Cooperative Library System (SCLS) Director Kevin Verbese would be conducting mandatory trustee training via zoom on one of two evenings in February (2/9/23 or 2/16/23).
  
9. There being no further business, Trustee Brianna Baker-Stines moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 p.m. The motion was seconded by Trustee Thomas Maher and adopted 5-0 by the following roll call vote:

FOR—Baker-Stines, Bernstein, Galarza, Knispel, Maher; AGAINST—none

Minutes approved this 17<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2023



Brianna Baker-Stines, President  
Smithtown Library Board of Trustees



Linda Taurassi  
Secretary to the Board of Trustees