

**Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Board of Trustees
of the Bernards Township Library
March 18, 2020**

1. CALL TO ORDER

President Kippy Piedici called the meeting to order at 7:55 p.m. via conference call.

2. SUNSHINE LAW REMINDER

In accordance with the requirements of the Open Public Meetings Law of 1975, notice of the meeting was posted on the bulletin board in the Reception Hall of the Municipal Building, Collyer Lane, Basking Ridge; on the inside of both doors of the Bernards Township Library Public Notices bulletin board; was filed with the Township Clerk; and was posted on both the Township's website and the Library's website.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

4. ROLL CALL

Present: Jack Brull, Karen Kogut, Mary Jane McNally, Vivian Pagoulatos, Kippy Piedici, Zina Pozner, Doug Roberts and Cynthia Yin [8:03]

Absent: Joe Esposito

Also Present: Lyn Begraft

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

6. DISCUSSION REGARDING THE EFFECT OF COVID-19 ON LIBRARY OPERATIONS

- Lyn summarized the steps taken and decisions made regarding library operations in response to the rapidly evolving COVID-19 pandemic:
 - All spring semester Leisure Learning programs were cancelled.
 - After checking with other MAIN library directors, the Bernards Township Health Department, and the CDC [Cynthia joined the meeting at 8:03], the decision was made to close the library to the public at the end of the day Sunday, March 16, 2020, but to allow staff to work in the building.
 - On Monday, March 16, 2020 Lyn closed the building to the staff after seeking advisement from Bernards Township Health Officer Lucy Forgione.
 - Statewide Interlibrary Loan delivery service has been suspended indefinitely.
 - Staff is working at home completing previously deferred projects, planning for future programs and events, conducting programs online, and promoting ebooks and other online services.
- Kippy referred the Board to the "Policy on Inclement Weather and Other Emergency Closing," specifically the paragraph outlining pay implications for staff when there is a full-day closure. She then polled the Board for questions and comments.
- **MOTION 20-14** was made by Vivian Pagoulatos and seconded by Doug Roberts to continue paying part-time staff as long as the library is closed. With a roll call vote the motion passed 8-0-0.
- The Board agreed that should conditions improve the library could be reopened by Lyn and Kippy after consultation with the Township Health Department.

7. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was public comment expressing appreciation for the action taken by the Board.

8. ADJOURNMENT

- **MOTION 20-15** was made by Zina Pozner and seconded by Cynthia Yin to adjourn the meeting at 8:38 pm. The motion passed unanimously.
- The next meeting of the Bernards Township Library Board of Trustees is scheduled for 7:30 p.m., March 25, 2020.