

MINUTES - ANNUAL MEETING AND ELECTION - APRIL 8, 2025

The Library Board of Trustees has appointed Mrs. Deborah Spreckels as Chairperson of the Annual Budget Vote & Trustee Election in accordance with the Education Law. The meeting was called to order at 2:41 p.m.

Mrs. Spreckels led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The School Board has, at the request of the Library Board of Trustees, also appointed Mrs. Katherine Rath to serve as the Acting District Clerk for the meeting as provided in the Education Law.

Mrs. Rath announced that the purpose of this meeting is:

1. To consider and vote upon the annual appropriation for the expenses of the Harborfields Public Library for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025 to be raised by tax on all taxable property in the school district in the amount of \$5,373,486, less any sums received from other sources.
2. To elect one member of the Board of Trustees for the Public Library of this school district. The position is for a term of five (5) years, beginning on July 1st, 2025 and expiring on June 30th, 2030, and will fill the position presently occupied by Renee Boyer. The candidate is:

Renee Boyer

3. To transact such other business as may properly come before such meeting.

Mrs. Spreckels asked Mrs. Rath if, as Acting Clerk of the District, the law has been complied with in relation to the publishing of the Notice of Annual Meeting and Election. Mrs. Rath responded that the Notice of the Annual Meeting and Election, both in English and Spanish, was published four times in The Long Islander newspaper, legal ad section, on February 20th, March 6th, March 20th and March 27th, 2025, and a signed and notarized affidavit confirming such publication was provided, as attached. Mrs. Spreckels noted that it is within the power of this meeting to dispense with the reading of the "Official Notice."

Motion by Alice Stone, seconded by Susan Semple, to dispense with the reading of the "Official Notice" carried unanimously.

Mrs. Spreckels asked that Mrs. Rath read the qualifications of a voter. Mrs. Rath stated that in order to vote in this election, a voter must be:

1. A citizen of the United States.
2. 18 years of age or over.
3. A district resident for the past 30 days.

Mrs. Rath announced the appointment of the Inspectors of Election.

The Library Board of Trustees has appointed, and notification in writing has been sent to, the following Chairperson, Chief Inspector and Inspectors of Election:

INSPECTORS OF ELECTION

- 1.) Deborah Spreckels - Chairperson
- 2.) Alice Stone - Chief Inspector
- 3.) Susan Semple - Inspector of Election

All Inspectors of Election were administered the *OATH OF OFFICE* by Attorney - Ms. Lauren Schnitzer, from Bond, Schoeneck & King, LLP.

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Mrs. Rath stated that a list of all persons to whom an absentee ballot or early mail ballot has been issued was available for inspection, upon request prior to the vote, in the office of the Acting District Clerk. No absentee or early mail ballots can be accepted after 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 8, 2025.

The official Suffolk County Board of Elections ballot box was inspected by the Chairperson - Deborah Spreckels, the Chief Inspector - Alice Stone, Acting District Clerk - Katherine Rath, and by Attorney - Lauren Schnitzer. It was verified that the ballot box was empty and did not contain any ballots prior to the opening of the polls. Additionally, after the ballot box was confirmed to be empty, a lock was put in place in the closed position with the key removed. The key was given to the Acting District Clerk for safe keeping.

At 3:00 p.m., Mrs. Spreckels announced that voting could begin.

At 8:55 p.m., an announcement was made that anyone in the library who had not voted should do so as all doors of the polling place would be closed at 9:00 p.m.

At 9:00 p.m., Mrs. Spreckels announced that the doors of the polling place were closed but that all persons within the polling place shall have an opportunity to vote. At 9:00 p.m., the doors were closed and all persons within the polling place voted. The polls were declared closed.

After direction from the Acting District Clerk, the ballot box was unlocked by the Chairperson - Mrs. Spreckels, and the ballots within were removed from the box for tallying. The removal of the lock and of the ballots was also witnessed by Chief Inspector – Alice Stone, Election Worker – Susan Semple, Library Director - Ryan Athanas, Assistant Library Director - Linda Meglio, Acting District Clerk – Katherine Rath, President of the Board of Trustees - Jennifer Shore and, by Attorney - Mr. Robert Cohen. Regular ballots were then organized and tallied by Chairperson - Deborah Spreckels, and Chief Inspector - Alice Stone. Verified absentee envelopes containing the ballots were then opened by Inspector of Election - Ms. Semple, with the assistance of Acting District Clerk - Katherine Rath, and were then tallied by Mrs. Spreckels, Mrs. Stone and Ms. Semple. The library received (0) early mail envelopes and (1) absentee voter envelope was excluded prior to the vote due to lack of signature under the required “Voter’s Statement”, but has been retained for our records. The number of ballots counted exactly matched the number of registrants signed-in per the electronic voter sign-in log from Bold Systems, as well as the number of absentee ballots received and input into the Bold system prior to the vote. There were no spoiled ballots. A formal tally was completed and signed by Mrs. Spreckels, Mrs. Stone, Ms. Semple, Mrs. Rath and Attorney - Mr. Robert Cohen. All in-person, absentee ballots, as well as all corresponding voter statement envelopes, were given to Mrs. Rath for retention. The official results of the election were announced by Attorney - Mr. Robert Cohen, from Bond, Schoeneck & King. LLP.

The budget passed, (217) – YES, (23) – NO. Of the (240) total votes for the budget, there were (148) in-person and (69) absentee “YES” votes, as well as (11) in-person and (12) absentee “NO” votes. There were (0) early mail votes. Of the (221) total votes received for Renee Boyer as Trustee, there were (148) in-person and (73) absentee votes. (15) ballots were “blank” under the Trustee proposition and there were (0) early mail votes. There were also (4) write-in votes; James Clemens, Andrew Heglund, Ryan Schlotter & Jenice Sesti. A copy of the *Official Tally of Votes* is attached.

The *Official Tally of Votes* was signed by the Chairperson, the Chief Inspector, Inspector of Election, the Acting District Clerk and by the library’s attorney. The tally will be filed with the library’s attorney, and with the District Clerk of the Harborfields Central School District, within 24 hours.

Motion by Alice Stone, seconded by Susan Semple, to adjourn the meeting at 9:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Katherine Rath, Acting District Clerk,
for Dr. Joyce Hilgeman, Secretary