

Oswego Public Library
Board of Trustees
Emergency Closure Meeting
Wednesday March 18, 2020 at 5:00 p.m.

Board Members present: Kathleen Mantaro, Mercedes Niess, William Schickling (via phone), Catherine Santos (via phone, LOA unable to vote), Dr. Joseph Sgarlata, Heather Wallace, George DeMass (via phone at 5:17 p.m.)

Others: Carol Ferlito, Director of OPL

Visitors: none

1. **Call to order:** by Kathleen Mantaro at 5:12 p.m.
2. **Approval of agenda:** asked for Kathleen Mantaro, All in favor, none opposed
3. **Public comment period:** none, no one from the public was present
4. **Friends of Library:** no report
5. **Approval of Minutes:** tabled
6. **Financial Report:** no report
7. **Committee Reports:** no reports
8. **Director's Report:** no report
9. **Old Business:** tabled
10. **New Business:** presented by Kathleen Mantaro

Emergency Closure Resolutions: The reason for our new business today is to approve emergency closure resolutions as per North Country Library System and as per the opinions of Stephanie Adams, the attorney that staffs the Library Systems Ask-the-Lawyer service, that has prepared guidance on paying staff during a state of emergency and pandemic.

Board members were presented with material listing the resolutions and outlining policies that were reviewed in support of proposed resolutions, see attachments.

At the request of Kathleen Mantaro, Dr. Joseph Sgarlata read the resolution to be voted on:
The resolution states:

Whereas on March 7, 2020, the Governor of the state of New York issues Executive Order 202 declaring a state disaster emergency; and

Whereas, the board has duly reviewed the public safety and budget considerations of reducing operations and continuing regular pay during the state of emergency; and

Whereas, the library is a community resource for critical resource to critical information at this time, and must remain ready to respond to community needs as is within its capacity and budget;

1. Be it resolved that the Oswego Public Library be closed to the Public due to the COVID-19 Virus from March 15, 2020 until further notice.
2. Be it resolved that all overdue fines will not accrue during the period from March 9, 2020 until further notice. This will not apply to lost or damaged materials.
3. Be it resolved that the Oswego Public Library Wi-Fi remain open to current NCLS card holders.
4. Be it resolved to allow the Director to create with Board of Trustees approval, alternate/flexible work locations and work assignments for staff.
5. Be it resolved to compensate staff of the Oswego Public Library according to the current payroll schedule until further notice.

6. Be it resolved that the Oswego Public Library Board of Trustees accepts Usherwood's copier proposal for the leasing of an HP Color Laser Jet E87640dn and a Xerox VersaLink C405/DN for the period of 60 months at a cost of \$153.21/month plus overages. For detailed description see attached for each copier.

Voted on by the Board of Trustees at the Oswego Public Library on Wednesday March 18, 2020.

In discussion that followed, Kathleen Mantaro reported that: since the above resolution was written we got a memo from NCLS stating that the public can use the WiFi through the NCLS website. One member wanted clarification that we are voting on vote for all 6 points together, another member wanted clarification that we did not have to vote on NCLS's WiFi use.

Heather Wallace took a roll call vote; noting that Cathy Santos cannot vote because she is on a leave of absence.

George DeMass voted yes

Kathleen Mantaro voted yes

Mercedes Niess voted yes

William Schickling voted yes

Dr. Joseph Sgarlata voted yes

Heather Wallace voted yes

there was nobody from the public

In summary there were 6 votes yes, 0 votes no, 0 abstentions, the resolution PASSED

11. **Adjournment:** Motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:21 p.m. made by George DeMass, 2nd by Dr. Joseph Sgarlata

Heather Wallace took a roll call vote. All in favor, None opposed.

Next meeting: Wednesday, April 1, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.