



**Executive Session Minutes of the Meeting
The Flint Public Library
Board of Trustees
Monday, March 13, 2023**

NOTE: This meeting was hybrid; it was held both in-person and via Zoom.

Board of Trustees Present: Donna Bambury, Chairperson; Erin Bennett, Vice Chair/Secretary; Timothy Houten, Treasurer; Maria Paikos-Hantzis; and Allison Sloan

Others Present: Loretta Swift Johnson, Library Director; Stefanie McKanas, Recording Secretary; Elizabeth Lydon, Town Counsel/Remote; Ryan Clemens, Town Counsel/Remote

CALL TO ORDER:

All present introduced themselves. Donna Bambury, Chair; Maria Paikos-Hantzis, Erin Bennett, Vice Chair; Tim Houten, Treasurer; Loretta Swift Johnson, Library Director; Elizabeth Lydon, Town Counsel/Remote; Ryan Clemens, Town Counsel/Remote and Stefanie McKanas, Recording Secretary.

Ms. Bambury motioned to go into Executive Session under G.L. c. 30A section 21(a)(1) to review the Open Meeting Law Complaint filed by Allison Sloan. Mr. Houten seconded the motion. Ms. Bambury, Chair, voted yes to go into Executive Session; Ms. Bennett, Vice Chair, voted yes to go into Executive Session; Ms. Paikos-Hantzis voted yes to go into Executive Session; and Mr. Houten, Treasurer, voted yes to go into Executive Session. The Board entered Executive Session at 7:06pm.

Attorney Lydon stated anything mentioned in the Executive Session should not be discussed and remain confidential.

- Attorney Lydon stated she reviewed the complaint filed by Allison Sloan against the Board as well as viewed the video recording of the February 13th meeting. She was attending the meeting remotely to listen to what the Trustees had to say about the accusations in the complaint and to confirm whether an Open Meeting Law violation did or did not occur.
- Attorney Lydon said that she did not identify any evidence of a discussion taking place outside of the public forum among a quorum of the members regarding a substantive matter; therefore, no violations of the Open Meeting Law took place.
- Ms. Paikos-Hantzis stated that she did not receive a copy of the complaint and felt it was unprofessional. As a result, Ms. Paikos-Hantzis stated that she did not have the opportunity to review the complaint and felt unprepared to give her comments on this matter.
- Ms. Bambury offered her copy of the complaint to Ms. Paikos-Hantzis to review.
- Mr. Houten briefly left the meeting to make a hard copy of the complaint for Ms. Paikos-Hantzis; he then returned and handed it to her.

- Ms. Bambury stated that both Trustee members, Mr. Houten and Ms. Bennett received a copy of the Open Meeting Law Complaint.
- Attorney Lydon shared the complaint on the computer screen for the Board to view while she read the drafted response.
- Mr. Houten explained that after the Trustees meeting was adjourned, he was simply summarizing his actions for which he was apologizing to the Board (specifically for speaking loudly during the meeting).
- Mr. Houten stated that Ms. Sloan's resignation request of himself, Ms. Bambury, and Ms. Bennett is offensive.
- Ms. Bennett stated that the accusations of Open Meeting Law violations (moving to end deliberation) are baseless.
- Attorney Lydon read her draft response to the Board members since they didn't receive a copy prior to the meeting.

Ms. Bambury made a motion to delegate the response to the complaint to Ms. Elizabeth Lydon, Town Counsel. Mr. Houten seconded the motion, all were in favor. Ms. Bambury, Chair, voted yes; Ms. Bennett, Vice Chair, voted yes; Ms. Paikos-Hantzis voted yes; and Mr. Houten, Treasurer, voted yes.

ADJOURNMENT:

With no further business, Ms. Bambury made a motion to leave Executive Session. Mr. Houten seconded the motion, all were in favor. Ms. Bambury, Chair, voted yes; Ms. Bennett, Vice Chair, voted yes; Ms. Paikos-Hantzis voted yes; and Mr. Houten, Treasurer, voted yes.

The Board exited Executive Session at 7:31pm

Respectfully Submitted by Stefanie McKanas, Recording Secretary