

Friends of the Bernardsville Public Library, Inc.
2009 Organizing Meeting Minutes
November 18, 2009

The Meeting was called to order at 7:57 PM by President John Deibert. Those in attendance were Marc Aronson, Karen Brodsky, John Deibert, Georgiana Depew, Barbara Duffy, Elizabeth Faulkner, Rick Gallo, Barbara Hyzer, Shellie Iossa, Jos Kadam, Donald Kerdman, Harold Kuskin, Roni Larini, Theo Mulgrum, Janet George Murnick, Kathy Redling, Maureen Robinson, Tom Shea, Rita Stein and guest-Caroline Browne.

Nominating Committee Report-Tom Shea, new chairperson of the Nominating Committee, stated that the Nominating Committee was presenting a slate of proposed Officers and Committee Chairpersons for the 2010 year. A printed copy of the proposed slate was passed to each Board member. President Deibert asked if there were any questions. Barbara Hyzer made a motion to accept the slate of Officers and Committee Chairpersons. Roni Larini seconded the motion and the nominations were approved. John Deibert congratulated all of the participants and thanked the Nominating Committee for all of their work. He thanked Tom Shea for being his mentor, first as Finance Committee Chair and again as President.

Banking Resolution- John Deibert presented the 2010 Banking Resolution, and read it aloud for the board. "Resolved, that John P. Deibert, President, and Jacqueline F. Somers, Treasurer, are authorized to open and close bank and brokerage accounts in the name of the Friends of the Bernardsville Public Library, Inc.; to authorize other members of the Board to be signatories on such accounts; and to provide safe storage facilities for document of value." He clarified the purpose of the document and asked if any Board member had questions, but there were none. Tom Shea made a motion to accept the Resolution, and Elizabeth Faulkner seconded the motion. Following a Roll Call Vote, the Resolution was approved and stamped with the FBPL Seal.

Board List and 2010 Meeting Calendar-Kathy Redling distributed the 2010 Board Member Listing and Calendar for Board meetings, Executive Board meetings and Programs that were planned to each Board member. Kathy noted that the date for the Volunteer Recognition Luncheon will be in late May, and the date for Unity Day will be set by the Bernardsville Chamber of Commerce in the future. Members were asked to check their contact information on the Board list for accuracy and completeness and inform Kathy of any discrepancies. An electronic copy will be emailed out.

President's Remarks-John Deibert went on to discuss board committee assignments. He summarized the functions of each committee and asked Board members to indicate their preferences for committee assignments, requesting that members serve on at least one committee. A discussion followed regarding current and future committee assignments to individuals outside of the Board's current membership. A sign up sheet for members to mark their 1st and 2nd choice of Committee assignments was circulated and John noted that he would be working out the various committee groups and distributing the 2010 committee listing.

Director's Report-Karen Brodsky presented the status of the Friends' Technology Plan funding to date, noting that funding is exhausted, however, a total of \$645.58 remains unspent in several other accounts which are running under budget. She requested approval to spend additional funds on Technology to purchase all 3 of the replacement computers needed and a replacement barcode scanner. Following a discussion, Harold Kuskin made a motion to permit spending of up to \$700.00 above the \$4000.00 budget level on additional Technology Plan items. Doug Doremus seconded the motion, and following a vote, the motion passed.

Karen requested formal permission from the Friends board to purchase the Sony e-book reader and a collection of books within the funding level provided by the recent donation for such purchase. It was noted that this was the first one being purchased by the library and checkout would work like the current MP3 players that are loaned out to card holding patrons. Book selections will be made by the library staff committee as all purchases are. The Bernardsville Library's membership in the Highlands Regional Library was also discussed. Shellie Iossa made a motion to approve the purchase and expenditure of gifted funds. Rick Gallo seconded the motion and following a vote the motion was approved.

Karen continued to summarize her report of new purchases, and reviewed several upcoming purchases that would be made within budget. Discussions were held around building supply cost reductions, the Children's Local History Book along with planned and possible components of the upcoming 10th anniversary for the new Library facility. Karen requested that \$200 be allocated by the Friends for costs associated with the anniversary celebration. Rick Gallo asked if funds would be coming from the 2010 budget, and if we were already in the 2010 budget. Marc Aronson, finance committee chairperson, noted that the 2010 budget begins on 1/1/2010. Rick Gallo made a motion to allocate an additional \$200 in the 2010 budget under Special Programs. Marc Aronson seconded the motion and following a vote the motion carried.

A larger scale discussion of the 3pm event planned by the Library Board of Trustees for February 28, 2010 was held, however, at the present planning stage it was agreed that the Friends organization would not be directly involved.

Karen updated the Friends on the Lighting project following the Library Board of Trustees meeting. Additionally Karen mentioned the possibility of the Library applying for a particular Grant with a 1-4-10 deadline which required no funds, but did require financial support if the Grant was won. Questions regarding the grant, financial support, limitation of Library's options, and the possible transformation project requiring funding. The Library Board of Trustees will meet on 12-15-09 at 5pm to consider application for the grant, and it was requested that the Friends Board meet on 12-16-09 at 7:30pm to discuss a possible resolution to provide financial support should the Bernardsville Library receive the grant. The necessity to have a quorum of 10 members was a concern, and following discussion a motion was made by Tom Shea to authorize the Executive Board at a meeting on 12-16-09 to vote to provide or not provide financial support to the Library on the New Jersey State Library Transformation Project grant. Harold Kuskin seconded the motion and the motion passed with the majority of members present voting in favor. Karen Brodsky was requested to email all information regarding the grant to the entire Friends Board, and subsequently all members were encouraged to attend the meeting at 7:30pm on 12-

16-09 and a vote of the full board would take place if a quorum was available. John Deibert requested that Kathy Redling notify Madelyn English of the additional Executive Board meeting.

Committee Reports

Finance- Mark Aronson noted that the committee would be meeting prior to the January board meeting to review the Fidelity Investments portfolio.

Fund Raising-Georgiana Depew confirmed that \$16,195 has been received and deposited and matching gifts will bring the total to approximately \$20,000 for the 2010 campaign to date.

Programs-Jos Kadam shared details on the 12-13 Sundays at 3 program and circulated a signup sheet for board members to clean up and/or provide cookies. He noted that the October program featured a cappella group, Candence, was very well received by over 100 attendees.

Publicity- Shellie lossa shared her recent letter to the Bernardsville News.

Volunteer Recognition-Georgiana (former chairperson) noted that we will again be providing Library Volunteers with Gift Bags of Holiday Cookies as well as supplying the refreshments for the Wednesday 12/16 BHS Madrigals holiday concert. Members are asked to drop off Cookies at the Library by 4:00 pm Tuesday 12/15. Georgiana, Kathy and new Volunteer chairperson Bob Baker will be bagging the cookies and setting up the platters for the concert on Tuesday evening at the Library.

Old Business- John Deibert asked if the Museum Pass committee could present their scheduled report at the January meeting in light of the time, and Harold Kuskin agreed.

New Business- John Deibert asked if there were any other items for discussion, and none were noted. Tom Shea asked Karen Brodsky to email the Board members with the Library Facts Sheet from the Borough Council Finance Presentation she had spoken about earlier in the meeting.

Tom Shea made the motion to adjourn the meeting and Shellie lossa seconded it. The meeting was adjourned at 9:08 PM.

Respectfully Submitted
Kathy Redling