

**Minutes of Board of Trustees Meeting
Bernardsville Public Library
February 21, 2006**

Attendance: All board members were present. Also present: Karen Yannetta, Executive Director, Bernardsville Public Library, Lorette Cheswick, president of the Bernardsville Library Association (“BLA”) and public gardens chair of the Bernardsville Garden Club, and Elizabeth Faulkner, Vice President of the BLA.

President Stephanie Wallace called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. and read the Open Meeting Notice.

Public Participation: Terry Thompson asked if the BLA had completed its proposed name change, and Elizabeth Faulkner said it had not.

Minutes: Jim Kellett moved approval of the minutes of the meeting of January 17, 2006; Russ Giglio seconded the motion, which carried.

Director’s Report: Karen Yannetta provided the following highlights of and additions to her written report:

- Circulation and all other trends continue to be good. There has been remarkable use of the first installment of the circulating collection of videos purchased through the CBG Video Circuit; we received 217 items for a month, and they were borrowed a total of 289 times.
- Staffing: The board congratulated Karen Vaias on her fifth year service anniversary.
- The theme of National Library Week is “Libraries Change Lives”. The staff proposes to invite patrons to share their best memories of libraries, to be videotaped and made available.
- The BLA may be asked to fund clip magnets, for giving to patrons during National Library Week.
- The library has had remarkable press coverage recently, with thanks to Madelyn English for her regular submissions and liaison with the press. Mrs. Yannetta passed around copies of many of the articles, including two of the Chinese New Year celebration with dancers from a nearby Chinese language school.
- There have been a fair number of patron complaints recently about teens in and immediately outside the library. Concern has also been expressed about teen use of MySpace.com, with its potential for predation.
- Mark Sattler has refused to sign a receipt for the key that was to be returned to him.
- Mrs. Yannetta is looking into the possibility of a free telephone hookup to be supplied by Patriot Media as a public service. There was a brief discussion of the need to make sure the library is protected against international calling and of the possibility of telephone calls using the library’s computers, through googletalk or yahootalk. Mrs. Yannetta will get further information about the Patriot Media offer.
- The library will install a new directional sign at the intersection of Church Street and Route 202, using the same pole as the high school directional sign.
- Mrs. Yannetta circulated an article about the Morris County Library, which has made space available near its front entrance in which patrons can drink coffee, juice etc., eat and read at the same time. The Morris County Library is installing vending machines, and has reviewed the experiences of other libraries with “Snack Spots” and concluded that patrons have generally been considerate of the library elsewhere.

- Mrs. Yannetta showed the board the second iteration of the Technical Services/Circulation Desk reconstruction plan, noting that it was much more satisfactory than the first one. The board briefly discussed the cost of the cabinet work to be done, and Mr. Reznick suggested that the library may wish to get bids from local craftsmen as well as library specialist firms. Stephanie Wallace moved that the board adopt a “Pay to Play” resolution regarding Kennedy-Grant Architecture, a copy of which was attached to the board package; the motion was seconded by Terry Thompson and carried.
- Pella, the manufacturer of the windows that are leaking, has agreed to come to the library and review the problems.

Treasurer’s Report: Jim Kellett presented a revised year-end report for 2005, having corrected an error in the light bulb accounting, and the current report. He also presented the bills lists, noting nothing unusual, but offering earnest thanks, again, to the BLA for its continuing generosity. Terry Thompson moved that the treasurer’s reports be accepted and to authorize the payment of new bills received between February 1 and February 21, and and to ratify the payment of bills paid from January 17 to January 31. Dennis Reznick seconded the motion, which carried unanimously. Mr. Kellett presented some proposed revisions in the format of the Treasurer’s Reports, which he planned to discuss at a finance committee meeting.

Committee Reports: None.

Communications: Gerry Burden and Lucy Orfan sent notes thanking the library for the flowers (Gerry’s husband died, and Lucy had a knee operation). Mrs. Yannetta noted that membership in the Raritan Valley Federation provided benefits similar to being a part of the County Library.

Old Business: Terry Thompson said that at the January 26 Planning Board meeting, the Hampshire Management application, which at one point involved possible use of the parking stalls assigned to the Old Library by the borough for parking for the tenants of the proposed addition to the building that houses Diehl’s Jewelers, had been placed on hold. Hampshire Management, through a different law firm than the one prosecuting the application before the planning board, has sued the Borough, challenging certain aspects of the new parking ordinance limiting general parking in the library lot to four hours unless the space is specifically assigned or the car is permitted to park for the entire day, and the application will not go forward until that suit has been resolved. public meeting. She also said that both she and Michael Mondok had been told that Hampshire would no longer seek to use the library parking spaces but would rent spaces in the Ammerman lot across the railroad tracks.

New Business: None.

Executive Session: At 6:25 pm, Stephanie Wallace moved that the board go into executive session. The motion was seconded by Donald Buset and carried.

Adjournment: At 6:42 pm, Donald Buset moved that the meeting be adjourned. This was seconded by Jim Kellett and carried.

Terry Thompson, Secretary