

**Minutes of Board of Trustees Meeting
Bernardsville Public Library
July 18, 2006**

Attendance: Stephanie Wallace, President; Donald Buset, Russ Giglio, Jim Kellett, Jay Parsons, Dennis Reznick and Terry Thompson. Peter Miller and Lucy Orfan were absent. Also present: Karen Yannetta, Executive Director, Bernardsville Public Library and Lorette Cheswick, president of the Bernardsville Library Association (“BLA”) and public gardens chair of the Bernardsville Garden Club.

Stephanie Wallace called the Board of Trustees (“Board”) meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. and read the Open Meeting Notice.

Public Participation: Lorette Cheswick said that the BLA was concerned about the flat response to its recent Annual Fund appeals and was interested in any fund-raising suggestions the Board might have. She noted that the BLA has been contributing about \$80,000 per year to the library while raising only about \$30,000 through its annual appeal.

Mrs. Cheswick commented on discussions she had had with a member of the Peapack-Gladstone Friends of the Library about a news story regarding alleged differences between the P-G Council and the Friends group, expressing concern at the alleged inaccuracy of the story and about the viability of “public-private partnerships”.

Mrs. Cheswick asked if the Board had heard from the Borough Council regarding the Board’s letter to it, dated June 2, 2006, enclosing the BLA’s letter to the board relating to the proposed rebuilding of the circulation desk. Neither Mrs. Wallace nor Mrs. Yannetta has had any response from the borough about the proposed plans for the building alterations. Terry Thompson said that she had attended the council meeting on June 26, 2006, and that the request had been essentially tabled until additional plans were made available. She also reported that Mayor Parsons had stated that the council should approve the building alterations in principle and request further plans. Since no one from the borough has requested any additional information about the proposal, Mrs. Cheswick questioned whether it would be appropriate for the BLA to follow up with the borough. The board agreed that since the BLA is essentially managing as well as funding the proposed project, it would make sense for the BLA to determine where the Council stood on approval. Mrs. Cheswick plans to appoint a BLA member for this purpose, and will report back to the board.

Minutes: Stephanie Wallace moved to amend the minutes of the meetings of May 16, 2006 and June 20, 2006 and to approve them as amended; Donald Buset seconded the motion, which carried.

Director’s Report: Karen Yannetta presented highlights from and additions to her report, as follows:

- Messrs. Buset and Kellett will attend the July staff meeting and join in recognizing both Pat Kennedy-Grant’s tenth service anniversary and Megan Hartley’s completion of her MLS degree.
- Repair and replacement of parts in the air conditioning units is critical.
- JCP&L is addressing the possible low voltage problem by installing a temporary meter.
- There is a holdup in the lighting trial.
- Jeff Kinkley has accepted the library’s nomination for a Volunteer Award to be presented at the Y’s Volunteer Recognition Dinner in November.

Treasurer's Report: Jim Kellett presented the Treasurer's Report, the Statement of Accounts, and the bills lists. Stephanie Wallace moved that the Treasurer's Reports be accepted and to authorize the payment of new bills received from June 21-30, and to ratify the payment of bills paid from July 1-18. Terry Thompson seconded the motion, which carried by an unanimous roll call vote.

Committee Reports:

Finance: Jim Kellett will meet with Karen Yannetta on July 25 to begin the 2007 budget.

Personnel: Stephanie Wallace presented the change in health care plans from the borough's plans to the State Health Benefits Program, explaining that we had defined "full time" as 20 hours to facilitate participation. Stephanie moved the three resolutions attached to the meeting package, to permit the library to join the state program; Jay Parsons seconded the motion, which carried.

Long Range Planning did not meet, but Donald Buset and Karen Yannetta have further refined the planning for the staff input session.

Policy: will meet on July 25th at 11 am at the library.

Communications: Karen Yannetta discussed the news accounts of the police inquiries made at the Hasbrouck Heights library and the library's response, and contrasted them to our response (requesting a subpoena) before identifying a patron suspected of inappropriate behavior.

Old Business: There has been no further activity on the Hampshire Management application to the Planning Board.

There has been no communication from the borough in response to the board's letter of May 17, 2006, sent to the Mayor and Council, confirming the previously agreed-upon building maintenance responsibilities. As discussed earlier in the meeting, Terry Thompson attended the council meeting on June 26, 2006, and reported that Councilmen Michael Landau and Denis Dooley had suggested reviewing the library-borough building maintenance arrangements. After discussion, it was agreed that since the council has not responded to the board's letter, the board does not need to take any action at present.

New Business: Donald Buset moved to change the date of the November board meeting to the second Tuesday in November, November 14, to avoid meeting during Thanksgiving week. Stephanie Wallace seconded the motion, which carried.

Executive Session: At 6:50 p.m., Stephanie Wallace moved that the meeting adjourn to an executive session. Mmes. Cheswick and Yannetta left the meeting.

Adjournment: At 7:00 p.m., Stephanie Wallace moved to end the executive session and to adjourn the meeting. Donald Buset seconded the motion, which carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Terry Thompson, Secretary