

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

Attendance: Stephanie Wallace, President; Donald Buset, Russ Giglio, Peter Miller, Lucy Orfan, and Terry Thompson. Messrs. Kellett, Parsons and Reznick were absent. 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.

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

**Public Participation:** Lorette Cheswick said the BLA was enthusiastic about the progress of the plans for remodeling the circulation desk and technical services area.

**Minutes:** Donald Buset moved approval of the minutes of the meeting of February 21, 2006; Russ Giglio seconded the motion, which carried. Stephanie Wallace moved approval of the minutes of the executive session of February 21, 2006; Mr. Giglio also seconded that motion, which carried.

**Director’s Report:** Karen Yannetta presented a proposal for rearranging some library space to provide “Safe Space for Kids”. She described the issues that adults and parents of young children have because of the current location of the “teen” space, including teens blocking adults from the fiction collection, intimidation of younger children, and parent concern that teens were looking at web sites containing material inappropriate for younger children in full view of younger children.<sup>1</sup> As a way to solve these problems, the “teen” space and its computers will be moved to the northwest corner of the fiction section, the table now used for teens will become preteen and have computers appropriately filtered for younger children, and the computers will be removed from the former Computer Lab (which will continue to be available as a Homework Center). A staff station will be placed along the north wall of the fiction section to permit oversight of the new “teen” area. The board agreed that this solution should be tried out, and Mrs. Yannetta explained that she planned to propose the project for BLA funding.

- All statistics on library use continue to be good.
- Staffing: The library’s need for additional IT staff is considerable. Both Terry Thompson and Peter Miller expressed dismay that the originally planned solution of combining borough, school district and library IT staffing under the supervision of Scott Fitzgerald had apparently fallen through.
- A patron complained that a caregiver appeared to be abusing her charge in the library, and notified the police, which subpoenaed the library for information about the child’s family. The library responded to the subpoena.
- DYFS provided a speaker on child abuse for a recent staff meeting.

**Treasurer’s Report:** In Jim Kellett’s absence, Karen Yannetta presented the treasurer’s report, the bill lists and a temporary revised budget for 2006, and discussed the possibility of a shortfall in 2007 if the borough limits the library to no more than the statutory amount of 3 mils per \$100 of equalized

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<sup>1</sup> While the computers in the youth area are all filtered, the filters permit access to sites equivalent to the *Sports Illustrated* swimsuit issue – not pornography, but perhaps inappropriate for four and five year olds.

valuation. The board affirmed that Mrs. Yannetta should not change course regarding a reference librarian. Terry Thompson moved that the treasurer's reports be accepted and to authorize the payment of new bills received between March 1 and March 21, and to ratify the payment of bills paid from February 22 to February 28. Donald Buset seconded the motion, which carried unanimously. Stephanie Wallace moved to adopt the 2006 revised temporary budget; Terry Thompson seconded the motion, which carried.

**Committee Reports:** The Finance Committee report was presented as part of the Treasurer's Report; there were no other committee reports. Karen Yannetta asked that the Policy Committee meet to discuss a "Named Gifts" policy.

**Communications:** None.

**Old Business:** Terry Thompson said that the hearing on the Hampshire Management application was still postponed. The Clancey real estate sign has again overstayed its time period; Mrs. Yannetta will write to Mike Mondok to remind him of this and state a date by which action should be taken to remove the sign. The Borough Council has approved the new library sign for Church Street.

**New Business:** None.

**Adjournment:** At 6:30 pm, Donald Buset moved that the meeting be adjourned. This was seconded by Russ Giglio and carried.

Terry Thompson, Secretary