

**Minutes of Board of Trustees Meeting
Bernardsville Public Library
November 14, 2006**

Attendance: Stephanie Wallace, President; Donald Buset, Russ Giglio, Lucy Orfan, and Terry Thompson. Jim Kellett, Peter Miller, Jay Parsons and Dennis Reznick were absent. Karen Yannetta, Executive Director, Bernardsville Public Library, and Elizabeth Faulkner, vice-president of the Friends of the Bernardsville Public Library (formerly the Bernardsville Library Association) (“Friends), were also present.

Stephanie Wallace called the Board of Trustees (“Board”) meeting to order at 5:40 p.m. and read the Open Meeting Notice.

Public Participation: Mrs. Faulkner reported that the Friends had voted for the name change at their annual meeting on November 8, and had also allocated \$9500 to support of the library’s technology plan. She also noted that the Friends had decided to change their board meetings to the third Wednesday of every other month (except perhaps November, depending on the date of Thanksgiving), to be more synchronous with the meetings of the Board. She also thanked the Board for the reception before the Friends annual meeting.

Minutes: Mrs. Wallace moved approval of the minutes of the meeting of October 17, 2006 as submitted; Ms. Thompson seconded the motion, which carried.

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

- The sharp rise in database use.
- The Friends’ generous support for the technology plan. The Board thanked the Friends for all that they do.
- The second air conditioner compressor has now failed, because the first one was not replaced on a timely basis so that the second one carried the entire air conditioning load during the summer.
- The lighting consultant has come up with a quote for an even more cost-effective replacement fixture. However, the quote depends on being able to pay for the fixtures on delivery, and the borough seems presently unwilling to address the lighting issues.
- No problems have arisen with the parking limits or permits.
- The staff has proposed a “Food Donations instead of Fines” period, to support local food banks. After discussion, the question was tabled until January.
- Mrs. Yannetta discussed the problem of people bringing food into the library, and asked the Board to consider establishing an area in the lobby that could be used as a “café”. After discussion, the Board tabled this issue, to be revisited in 2007.

Treasurer’s Report: Mrs. Wallace presented the Treasurer’s Report and the bills. Ms. Thompson moved to approve the Treasurer’s Report, to pay the new bills received from November 1 to 14 and to ratify the payment of bills received and paid from October 18-31. Mr. Buset seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous roll call vote.

Committee Reports:

Finance: no report.

Personnel: no report.

Long Range Planning: Mr. Burset reported that his discussion with Councilman Dooley, the chair of the Public Works Committee of the borough council (“PWC”), after the LRPC’s meeting with the PWC , had been generally positive, and that they had agreed that Mrs. Yannetta and Mr. Maresca should proceed on an issues list. However, the delivery by Mr. Dooley of a “Fourth Draft” of an ordinance purporting to regulate the library’s spending on maintenance at 4 pm on November 14 for presentation to the Board was viewed as an extremely negative development, and Mr. Dooley’s good faith was questioned by members of the Board. After discussion, Mr. Burset agreed to attempt another contact with Mr. Dooley, and Mrs. Wallace and Ms. Thompson, with Mr. Honecker. A brief summary of the background of the issue was given for Mrs. Faulkner’s benefit.

Policy: no report.

Communications: Letters of thanks for the party for the staff were circulated.

Old Business: discussed under Long Range Planning.

New Business: Mrs. Wallace appointed Mrs. Orfan to chair the Nominating Committee and Mr. Parsons as a member of the committee. Ms. Thompson asked about a “panic button” at the Circulation Desk (the library already has this) and about the possible use of signs regarding prosecution for personal use of the dumpster and the presence of a closed-circuit camera focused on the dumpster. The dumpster questions were tabled because the dumpster may be removed shortly. Ms. Thompson also raised an issue about the library’s compliance with “sunshine” laws in responding to requests, for instance, for documents showing consideration of various contractors (she made clear that she was not including requests for patron records in this issue. The issue was referred to the Policy Committee for consideration.

Mr. Burset moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:05 pm. Mr. Giglio seconded the motion, which carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Terry Thompson, Secretary