

**Minutes of the Board of Trustees Meeting
Bernardsville Public Library
November 13, 2012**

Attendance: Donald Bureset and Peter Miller were absent. Karen Brodsky, Executive Director, Bernardsville Public Library; Roni Larini, President of the Friends of the Bernardsville Public Library (“Friends”); and Neill Johnston, a Trustee of the Bernardsville Library Foundation (“Foundation”), were also present.

Vice-President Patrice Cummings called the Board of Trustees (“Board”) meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. and read the Open Meeting Notice, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

At 5:32 p.m., Terry Thompson moved to go into Executive Session; John McCrossan offered an amendment to state that the Executive Session was to discuss a personnel matter. Ms. Thompson accepted the amendment. The motion was seconded by John La Duc and carried. Mrs. Larini and Mr. Johnston left the meeting.

At 6:45 p.m. the meeting returned to public session; Mrs. Larini and Mr. Johnston returned and were joined by Howard Lemberg, President of the Foundation.

Treasurer’s Report and Finance Committee:

Mr. La Duc said that the year-end expenses were coming in as expected, with some additional unexpected expenses during the last three weeks due to the additional opening times resulting from Hurricane Sandy (and the additional patron count!). Mr. McCrossan asked about a year end comparison of actual to budget and the opportunities; Mr. La Duc said that would be forthcoming. Ms. Thompson moved to pay the new bills received from November 1-13, 2012, and to ratify the payment of bills received and paid from October 17-31, 2012. Mr. McCrossan seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous roll call vote.

Director’s Report: Ms. Brodsky highlighted the following:

- **Rankings:** Bernardsville is second to Avalon in the most recent Library Journal rankings for New Jersey, and is fourth nationally in our budget category. Thanks and congratulations to our wonderful staff!
- There is a “Storm Stories” link on the website, under Local History.
- Hiring the collection agency has paid for itself in the returned items and fines.
- Ms. Brodsky mentioned the logo redesign project, and the CERT report.
- Mr. McCrossan asked Ms. Brodsky about a generator for the entire building; she responded that Chief Valentine had already started the process to get a full building generator. He also asked Ms. Brodsky to submit the library’s additional costs as a warming center to Ralph Maresca at the Borough, so that they can be included in the Borough’s FEMA request – roofing repairs, extra bathroom cleaning and supplies, etc.

Committee Reports:

Contingency Planning, Long Range Planning, Personnel, and Policy: Did not meet. Terry Thompson, for herself and the members of the Personnel Committee that she had contacted, moved that the six part-time staff members who had given extra time and hours during the Sandy crisis each be given a \$100 gift card, and that the three Department Heads who had also given extra time and hours be offered an additional week's paid vacation in 2013. Ms. Brodsky said there were restricted funds that could be used for these purposes. Mr. La Duc seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous roll call vote.

Public Participation:

For the Friends, Mrs. Larini thanked all supporters of the Moyers event, which earned a \$13,600 profit. The fund drive letter will be late, like everyone else the Friends have lost two weeks to Sandy. The event scheduled for November 11 was cancelled, but there will be a jazz concert on December 9 and the Bernards High Madrigals on December 12. The Friends are also preparing their annual "goody bags" for library volunteers.

For the Foundation, Mr. Lemberg reported that the Foundation would vote on the remaining \$16,000 grant to the library at its meeting to follow this one, and invited all to stay for a celebration of Jerry Fischer's "years of genial service" to the library, to follow the end of this meeting. He also said that 2013 might bring a joint event with the Friends.

Communications: Ms. Brodsky circulated a thank-you note from Fauzia Burke for her selection for the Volunteer of the Year award.

New Business: Mrs. Cummings asked Peter Miller and Maribeth Southworth to serve on the Nominating Committee.

Minutes: Ms. Thompson moved the minutes of the October meeting as submitted. Mrs. Cummings seconded the motion, which carried.

At 7:10 p.m., Mike Gouldin moved to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Mr. La Duc and carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Terry A. Thompson, Secretary