

**Minutes of Board of Trustees Meeting  
Bernardsville Public Library  
April 17, 2012**

**Attendance:** Peter Miller and Maribeth Southworth were absent. Karen Brodsky, Executive Director, Bernardsville Public Library (“BPL”); Roni Larini, President, Friends of the BPL (“Friends”), and Howard Lemberg, Ed Landis, Jerry Fischer, Kathleen Palmer and Peter Palmer, all trustees of the Bernardsville Library Foundation (“Foundation”), were also present.

President Donald Burset 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. Secretary Terry Thompson called the roll.

**Minutes:** Michael Gouldin moved approval of the minutes of the March 20, 2012, Board meeting as submitted. John La Duc seconded the motion, which carried.

**Director’s Report:**

- The Local History committee will receive an award from the Somerset County Cultural and Heritage Commission on May 2 in Bound Brook. Ms. Brodsky will attend, but will not be able to make the Morris-Union Federation meeting and dinner, which is the same night. Mr. Burset will attend the MUF dinner and asked any other trustee who was interested to accompany him.
- Ms. Brodsky proposed a part-time position for Evelyn Fischel as an assistant for adult programs and internet assignments. After discussion, Ms. Thompson moved to accept the position description presented by Ms. Brodsky. Lucy Orfan seconded the motion, which carried.
- Ms. Thompson moved a resolution to amend the Library’s 125 Plan to include a cafeteria plan plus flexible spending accounts in the form of the documents attached to the April 17, 2012 Board meeting package, to be effective June 1, 2012. Mr. La Duc seconded the motion, which carried.

**Treasurer’s Report, Bills and Finance Committee Report:** John La Duc presented the Treasurer’s Report, the bills and the Finance Committee report.

- He reported that the Borough will hold a public hearing on its budget on April 23, 2012.
- The NJSEM electricity price is 7.5 cents per kwh, starting June 1, compared to 11.2 -11.3 cents per kwh from JCP&L, which will provide a saving of about \$16,000 per year, \$8,000 this year. He thanked Karen Brodsky for getting the ball moving on getting the library into NJSEM.
- He discussed the raw data now available on the Borough’s property values, indicating that they are down another \$40 million but that the annual adjustment percentage is not yet known. If it is in the neighborhood of 94%, then the Borough’s required minimum contribution would be slightly over \$800,000 for 2013. He said that the library is planning for an October or November submission of a draft budget for 2013 to the Borough, which will require Board action by September or October. Mr. La Duc said that 2013 will be another financial challenge.

Ms. Thompson moved to approve the Treasurer's Report, to accept the Finance Committee report, to pay the new bills received from April 1-17, 2012 and to ratify the payment of bills received and paid from March 21-31. Patrice Cummings seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous roll call vote.

**Committee Reports:**

**Finance:** included with the Treasurer's Report.

**Personnel:** no report.

**Policy:** no report.

**Long-Range Planning:** an action item list will be provided for a later meeting.

**Public Participation:** Mrs. Larini said that the Friends have a jazz concert scheduled for April 29, that they are working on fall plans and that awards for students participating in community service at the library will be presented on May 9.

Mr. Lemberg said that the response to the Homes of Distinction event has been disappointing but that the committee has worked hard and done its best. There will be an article in the next Bernardsville News about the featured homes. He thanked Michael Gouldin for his help with the wine donation. They have formed a new committee for "major donor" solicitations, Leslie Brown-Witt, Joan Contess and Maud Thiebaud, who will plan small events. He also said that Maud Thiebaud had put together some written Q's and A's (included with the board package) and asked for comments by Friday. He was asked to comment on the results from the fund-raising letter, and said that he thought the letter and the Homes event had currently raised about 30% of the Foundation's \$60,000 - \$65,000 goal.

At 6:30 p.m., Ms. Thompson moved to go into executive session, seconded by Mr. La Duc and carried. At 6:45 p.m. Mr. La Duc moved to adjourn the meeting; John McCrossan seconded the motion, which carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Terry A. Thompson. Secretary