

**Minutes of Board of Trustees Meeting  
Bernardsville Public Library  
January 19, 2010**

**Attendance:** Trustees Lucy Orfan and John McCrossan were absent. John Deibert, the president of Friends of the Bernardsville Public Library (“Friends”), and Karen Brodsky, Executive Director, Bernardsville Public Library, were also present.

Stephanie Wallace called the Board of Trustees (“Board”) meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. and read the Open Meeting Notice. She introduced our new trustee, Patrice Cummings, who is filling the remainder of Russ Giglio’s term; Russ’s increased business responsibilities and travel have made it very difficult for him to attend Board meetings, so he resigned. Though we shall all miss his participation, the Board is happy to have Patrice as a member.

**Board Reorganization:** Ms. Brodsky asked Maribeth Southworth to present the slate of officers in the absence of Lucy Orfan, Nominating Committee chair. The committee (Mrs. Orfan, Ms. Southworth and Peter Miller), asked the 2009 officers to serve again in 2010, and all agreed. There were no additional nominations, and Ms. Brodsky declared the slate elected unanimously, as follows:

Stephanie Wallace	President
Donald Burset	Vice President
Jim Kellett	Treasurer
Terry Thompson	Secretary

**Public Participation: Friends:** Mr. Deibert said that the meeting on January 12 between Board members and Friends Board members (Board members Wallace, Burset and Thompson; Mr. Deibert, Roni Larini, Vice President, and Georgiana Depew, Fundraising Chair, for the Friends, and Ms. Brodsky) to discuss the Board’s possible establishment of a foundation, had been a good and useful meeting. Mr. Deibert will be away in February but the Friends will have a representative at the Board meeting.

**Minutes:** Mr. Burset moved approval of the minutes of the December meeting with one correction (the purchase honoring Janet Murnick is a Sony E-Book reader, not a Kindle). Mr. Kellett seconded the motion, which carried.

**Director’s Report:** Ms. Brodsky presented highlights and additions to her written report, as follows:

- She handed out copies of the Children’s Town History book, written and published by the library in conjunction with the fourth grade at Bedwell School. The Board was delighted and thanked all the participants in the project.
- **2010 Pay-to-Play Compliance:** Ms. Thompson moved the two resolutions included in Appendix H to the January Board package, authorizing book procurement from Baker & Taylor and procurement of janitorial services from Dublin Maintenance. Mr. Burset seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

- Ms. Brodsky discussed plans for the 10-year anniversary celebration of the opening of the new Library; all of which sound excellent. The favors are down to packets of 3 note cards because of the number of attendees expected.
- She also mentioned the roof leaks, and the unnecessary, but welcome, visit by the Fire Department on Christmas Eve Day.

**Treasurer's Report:** Mr. Kellett reviewed the Treasurer's Report and bills, and called attention to the wage savings from failing to replace a technical services associate and the continued exemplary services provided by the department heads and the executive director in filling the personnel gaps.<sup>1</sup> Ms. Thompson moved to approve the Treasurer's Report, to pay the new bills received from January 1-19, 2010, and to ratify the payment of bills received and paid from December 16-31, 2009. Mr. Burset seconded the motion, which carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

### **Committee Reports:**

**Finance:** Mr. Kellett pointed out the difference in interest rates (NJ Cash Management: 0.34%; Peapack-Gladstone Bank: 1.10%, due to Mr. McCrossan's getting the borough's rate for the library. **2010 Bank approval:** Mr. Kellett asked for a resolution to approve the use of Peapack-Gladstone Bank for 2010. Ms. Thompson moved the resolution, which was seconded by Mrs. Cummings and carried unanimously. Mr. Kellett moved to approve the transfer \$24,967.10 from the available balance to the available reserve as of December 31, 2009. Ms. Southworth seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous roll call vote.

**Personnel:** Mrs. Wallace raised the question, also discussed in December, of increasing the amount of health insurance waiver compensation. Mr. Miller agreed to let the library know what percentage of the health insurance premium was being offered as waiver compensation by the school district.

**Policy:** did not meet.

**Long-Range Planning:** The committee did not meet, but Mr. Burset participated in a strategy session on January 11 to complete the application, due January 15, for the library transformation grant from the State Library.

**Foundation Research:** After further discussion of the committee's recommendation of a consultant, a consensus was reached to invite the consultant (Ken Grounds) to join us at the beginning of the February Board meeting, so that all Board members can meet and interview him.

**Communications:** none.

**Old Business:** The lighting project and energy audit continue to move along.

**Further 2010 Reorganization matters:** Mrs. Wallace announced that she was not making any committee changes. Mr. Burset moved to accept the list of 2010 meeting dates attached to the Board

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<sup>1</sup> The motto of Kaiser Engineers, "Find a need and fill it" certainly applies to our wonderful library staff!

package (third Tuesday of each month at 5:30 p.m. except for December, when the meeting will be on the second Tuesday). Mr. Kellett seconded the motion, which carried unanimously. Mr. Kellett moved to reauthorize Karen Brodsky as the library's Purchasing Agent; the motion was seconded by Mr. Burset and carried unanimously.

**New Business:** Ms. Thompson told the Board that, following our nomination, Ms. Brodsky had been selected as one of Somerset County's Outstanding Women for 2009, in the field of Public Service. The award will be presented at a dinner on March 26, and Ms. Thompson will bring reservation forms to the next Board meeting.

There being no further business, at 7 p.m. Ms. Thompson moved that the meeting adjourn. Mrs. Cummings seconded the motion, which carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Terry A. Thompson  
Secretary