

**Minutes of Board of Trustees Meeting
Bernardsville Public Library
February 17, 2009**

Attendance: All members were present except Russ Giglio and Pete Miller. John McCrossan arrived at 5:40 pm. Karen Brodsky, Executive Director, Bernardsville Public Library, was also present.

Stephanie Wallace called the Board of Trustees (“Board”) meeting to order at 5:33 p.m. and read the Open Meeting Notice.

Public Participation: None.

Minutes: Jim Kellett made two corrections to the minutes of the January 20 meeting, both in the Treasurer’s Report.¹ Maribeth Southworth then moved approval of the minutes as amended; Mr. Kellett seconded the motion, which carried.

Director’s Report: In addition to her written report, Karen Brodsky reported that staff had nominated Evelyn Fischel for an NJLA professional public relations and marketing award, for *BookNews & More* and *RatChat*. Karen has reported further dumpster problems to John MacDowall, who will put up “No Dumping” signs and contact Hampshire Management, for the Old Library building, and Mark Sattler, for the downstairs tenants, about the use of the dumpster. The logo redesign project is still under way. Mrs. Wallace moved to declare that two Dell Optiplex computers are no longer needed for public service; Donald Burset seconded the motion, which carried.

Treasurer’s Report: Jim Kellett reviewed the Treasurer’s Report, again thanking the library staff for their continuing efforts to hold down costs. Terry Thompson moved to pay the new bills received from February 1-17, 2009, and to ratify the payment of bills received and paid from January 21-31, 2009. Mr. Burset seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous roll call vote.

Committee Reports:

Finance: Mr. Kellett discussed a proposed revision to the budget. Mr. Burset moved to transfer \$6,000 from the reserve for employee benefits to the operating reserve. Mrs. Wallace seconded the motion, which carried. Ms. Thompson moved to accept the revised budget; Mrs. Wallace seconded the motion, which carried.

Personnel: The committee discussed the layoff of two part-time, teen-aged shelvers for Youth Services and approved their layoff. The committee suggests that we begin to accrue a restricted fund for major conferences, to allow the Library Director to go every few years. The committee will work on the Director’s review, present it to the Board in April, and then have the review on schedule in June.

Policy, Long Range Planning: No reports

¹ The corrections were to explain the change in the amount from operating reserves, and to correct the periods for which the electric bills were contrasted.

Communications: Mrs. Wallace discussed our resolution and the Borough Council's passage of an accompanying resolution opposing the Prieto bill requiring a cut in the state-set funding level for public libraries (the 1/3 mil). Ms. Thompson reported on her very positive meeting with Assemblyman Peter Biondi and her letters to Assemblywoman Denise Coyle and Senator Kip Bateman on the same subject, and that NJLA was meeting with Assemblyman Jerry Green, the chair of the Assembly committee to which the bill has been referred. She understood that Assemblyman Green is not supporting the bill.

Mrs. Wallace said that the Friends had accepted our offer of a reception before their March meeting, and that our meeting will therefore be held on March 18 at 5:30, to end by 6:30 and then to have the party for the Friends for an hour. Ms. Southworth suggested a source for crackers and dips that she likes.

Old Business: Lighting: the specification has been reviewed and returned to Brownsorth Engineering for further work; Ms. Brodsky will meet with John Macdowall to review the new proposal, and will check on the status of the energy audit grant to Bernardsville.

New Business: None.

At 7:40 p.m., Mr. Kellett moved to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Thompson seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Terry Thompson, Secretary