

**Minutes of Board of Trustees Meeting
Bernardsville Public Library
June 16, 2009**

Attendance: Russ Giglio was absent. Tom Shea, President of Friends of the Bernardsville Public Library (“Friends”), Karen Brodsky, Executive Director, Bernardsville Public Library, and Madelyn English, Public Relations Coordinator, were also present.

Stephanie Wallace called the Board of Trustees (“Board”) meeting to order at 5:35 p.m. and read the Open Meeting Notice.

Public Participation: Mr. Shea said that Seniors Day had been a great success with 63 attending. The Friends funded an expanded Teen Advisory Council award to graduating seniors to include volunteers, so that the library was able to recognize a total of 16 Bernards High seniors who have been active at the library. The Friends have completed their tax and charitable registration filings, for 2008 and are working on their 2010 budget cycle, with the same questions all charities have about giving levels. They are working on an electronic version of their policy manual.

Minutes: Jim Kellett moved approval of the minutes of the April and May meetings, with one typo to be corrected in the May minutes. Lucy Orfan seconded the motion, which carried.

Director’s Report:

- The new logo design: Madelyn English and Karen Brodsky displayed the designs that the staff thought the best after an evaluation period. The board provided some input. Mmes. Brodsky and English will go back to the designer and report the board’s and the staff’s views.
- Evelyn Fischel’s anniversary will be marked at the staff meeting on Wednesday, June 17.
- The board discussed the proposals for Volunteer of the Year, and decided to honor two volunteers at a second occasion in the library, probably in September. The honorees will be Keiko Matura and Bob Baker.
- Sarah Karasch’s last day is June 19; Ryan Weber is a new part-time employee.
- The board agreed to further exploration of the museum pass proposal.
- The board agreed to reduce the print/copy charges back to their former levels (15 cents/25 cents per page) and suggested that Ms. Brodsky look into a coin-operated copier.

Mrs. English left the meeting at the end of the Director’s Report.

Treasurer’s Report: Mr. Kellett reviewed the Treasurer’s Report, noting that donations had increased as a result of Exxon-Mobil’s policy on volunteer service and its donation on behalf of Russ Giglio, and a contribution from a patron who used the library’s tax assistance service of a portion of the refund achieved! John McCrossan asked about the discrepancies between income and expenditures; the answer was that they were principally timing differences. The electric bill is down compared to last year at the same time. Terry Thompson moved to pay the new bills received from June 1 to 16, 2009, to ratify the payment of bills received and paid from May 20-31, 2009, and to accept the Treasurer’s Report. Mrs. Orfan seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous roll call vote.

Committee Reports: **Finance** – will meet in June to complete the draft 2010 budget, to be

presented at the July meeting. There was a brief discussion of the interest rate differential between the NJ Cash Management Fund, at .53%, and Peapack-Gladstone Bank, at 1.05%. Mr. McCrossan said that he would talk about this with the Borough Attorney, Jack Pidgeon, to see what options were available.

Personnel, Policy, Long Range Planning: did not meet, but Long Range Planning conducted two interviews, with Friends for a Greener Bernardsville and the AAUW.

Communications: none.

Old Business: Ms. Brodsky reported that she had heard from John Macdowall that the bids were opened on the wings lighting project on June 16 and that the low bid was within the budgeted amount, so if the bidder otherwise meets the specifications, the contract will be awarded and the job should be completed by the end of September. The board was very pleased and enthusiastic! The county is still selecting firms to do the energy audits so there is no progress on solar heating.

New Business: Ms. Thompson reported on her attendance at the NJLA Fundraising Forum and discussed the possibility of establishing a foundation to endow some operating expenses (for instance, the resource librarian position). Mrs. Wallace appointed an *ad hoc* committee to look into this and report back, consisting of Mmes. Thompson, Brodsky and Wallace and Messrs. Kellett, McCrossan and Miller.

Ms. Brodsky raised the question of looking into a defibrillator again; Mr. Miller suggested she speak to the School District nurse, Ann Connor, who would know if the training requirements have changed.

There being no further business, at 6:35 Donald Burset moved that the meeting adjourn; Ms. Orfan seconded the motion, which carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Terry Thompson, Secretary