Minutes of the Board of Trustees Meeting  
Bernardsville Public Library  
July 19, 2019

Attendance: Patrice Cummings, Gretchen Dempsey, Lucy Orfan, Terry Thompson and Valerie Zanardi were present. John Bertoni, Mary Jane Canose, Richard Diegnan and Mark Krook were absent. Alexandria Arnold, Executive Director, Bernardsville Public Library, was also present.

President Terry Thompson called the Board of Trustees (“Board”) meeting to order at 5:37 p.m. and read the Open Meeting Notice, followed by the roll call.

Minutes: The June minutes were approved as submitted.

Director’s Report: Shura Arnold discussed her productive meeting with Dan Lincoln on redesigning the Tech Services space and her planned meeting with Lt. Gardner about having the Police Department be the first responder in case of an off-hours alarm. She mentioned the current air conditioning problems in the wings and the almost $2,000 cost of diagnosis, which the Borough will pay per Doug Walker. She also raised concerns about requests to the borough for use of the library parking lot for events without checking the library’s own schedule, for instance, on a Sunday were a concert scheduled in the Community Room. There was discussion about asking for a check of the library’s schedule to be part of the request to the borough. The library construction bond regulations have been published in draft and will be adopted in a couple of months. Shura also praised the ongoing partnerships with the school district.

Treasurer’s Report and Bills: In Mark Krook’s absence, Patrice Cummings presented the Treasurer’s Report and bills, noting that there was nothing exceptional this month. Mrs. Cummings moved to approve the Treasurer’s Report, to pay the new bills received from July 1 to 16, 2019, and to ratify the payment of bills received and paid from June 20-30, 2019. Valerie Zanardi seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous roll call vote.

Committee Reports: None.

Public Participation: None.

Communications: Ms. Arnold shared the staff’s thank-you note for the staff breakfast and a letter from a patron commenting positively about at mental health program the library had sponsored.

Unfinished Business: Ms. Cummings said that the joint donor list is still being corrected. Ms. Arnold discussed the materials included in the packet concerning e-books cost increases.

New Business: Ms. Thompson raised the issue of revisiting the 2007 Memorandum of Understanding with the borough on splitting building and grounds costs, noting that the borough was now occupying much of the lower floor. Mrs. Cummings suggested that a committee look at this and report in September. Ms. Thompson appointed an ad hoc committee for this purpose: Rich Diegnan, chair; John Bertoni, Mark Krook and Mmes. Arnold and Thompson.
Unless something critical comes up, the Board of Trustees will not meet in August.

The meeting adjourned at 6:37 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Terry A. Thompson, President