

**Minutes of Board of Trustees Meeting  
Bernardsville Public Library  
June 15, 2010**

**Attendance:** Peter Miller was absent. John Deibert, President of the 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.

**Public Participation:** John Deibert said that the Friends volunteer luncheon had been a success, that the level of discussion between the Friends, the volunteers and the trustees who attended had been gratifying, and that all three groups seemed to be saying we have to solve our problems at home, can’t count on Trenton or Washington. Donald Burset thanked Mr. Deibert for including the Trustees and especially for his excellent speech at the luncheon.

Board President Stephanie Wallace commented briefly on her unhappiness after the last Board meeting, her concern that the Board work from a single agenda and her belief that everyone on the Board is aware that there will be financial problems next year. She also said that she would be leaving the meeting at 6:30 for a family reason.

**Minutes:** The May minutes were approved as submitted, moved by Patrice Cummings and seconded by Maribeth Southworth.

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

- Usage continues to decrease,
- Trustees are requested to send in brief biographies for use on the web site.
- We are also asked to send a new set of letters to our NJ Senate and Assembly members.
- The staff has recommended Esther Warner, for technical services, and Theo Mulgrum, for ESL and her translation services, as this year’s Library Volunteers of the year. The Board concurred. Ms. Brodsky will find a date for the ceremony; Mrs. Wallace wants to include recognizing Russ Giglio for his board service.
- Ms. Brodsky continues to look at joint grant projects with the grant writer. A feasibility study may prove too costly.

**Treasurer’s Report:** Jim Kellett thanked Mr. McCrossan for his help with the municipal subvention to the library. Terry Thompson moved to approve the Treasurer’s Report, to pay the new bills received from June 1-15, 2010, and to ratify the payment of bills received and paid from May 19-31, 2010. John McCrossan seconded the motion, which carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

## **Committee Reports:**

**Finance:** Mr. Kellett mentioned the revised “Action Options to Close Prospective Funding Gaps” from the Finance Committee. Ms. Thompson asked why a later opening time had not been included in this option list, although that had been discussed and specifically requested at the October 2009 Board meeting, when the list had been presented. No action was taken on the option list. Mr. Kellett moved to approve the revised operating budget; this was seconded by Mrs. Wallace and approved by unanimous roll call vote. Mr. McCrossan discussed the likely library subvention for 2011 under several scenarios relating to potential property valuation changes.

**Personnel and Long Range Planning committees** have not met.

**Policy:** held an unnecessary meeting, much to Ms. Thompson’s embarrassment for having called it.

**Communications, Old Business, New Business:** none.

At 6:10 pm Mrs. Wallace moved to go into executive session; the motion was seconded by Mr. Burset and carried. Ms. Brodsky and Mr. Deibert were excused, but both were asked to return for the brainstorming session to follow the regular meeting. At 6:30 pm the executive session ended and the Board returned to public session. The regular meeting adjourned at 6:30. After a brief break for refreshments, Mr. Burset led a brainstorming session as a Long-Range Planning session for the entire board, with the invited participation of John Deibert and Karen Brodsky. Mr. Burset has transcribed the notes from the brainstorming session and circulated them to the Board. The committee meeting ended, and the meeting adjourned, at 7:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Terry A. Thompson  
Secretary