Minutes of Board of Trustees Meeting
Bernardsville Public Library
June 17, 2008

Attendance: Russ Giglio and John McCrossan were absent. Tom Shea, 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: None.

Minutes: Mr. Kellett moved approval of the minutes of the meeting of May 20, as amended to state that Mr. Burset would be asked to conduct Ms. Brodsky’s review. Mrs. Wallace seconded the motion, which carried.

Director’s Report: Karen Brodsky presented only one question, that of joining the Morris-Union Federation of Libraries. She explained that the dues payment would be returned as a grant to buy books, so that the only obligation would be to attend the annual meeting (the director and one board member are required to attend). After brief discussion, Ms. Thompson moved that the Bernardsville Library join the Morris-Union Federation. Mrs. Orfan seconded the motion, which carried.

Long-Range Planning: The Board discussed long range planning and specifically, the proposals for reconfiguration of the circulation area that were attached as Appendix A to the Year 1 Action Plans Worksheet for the Long-Range Plan. Ms. Brodsky noted that no opposition has been filed to the trademark registration request and that the staff has made great strides in working on their part of the LRP. Ms. Brodsky reviewed the proposals with the Board, which agreed by consensus that Ms. Brodsky should go forward to seek quotations. Mr. Shea noted that he would be presenting the same proposals to the executive committee of the Friends on Wednesday evening, June 21, and then left the meeting.

Treasurer’s Report: Mr. Kellett presented the Treasurer’s Report. Ms. Thompson moved to accept the Treasurer’s Report, to pay the new bills received from June 1-17, 2008 and to ratify the payment of bills received and paid from May 21-31, 2008. Mrs. Orfan seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous roll call vote.

Committee Reports:

Finance: The Finance Committee met before the Board meeting and took the initial steps to prepare a working budget for 2009; Mr. Kellett thinks that an initial draft will be available in July. Mr. Kellett reviewed the auditor’s report. There were no exceptions nor any suggestions for improving procedures, which was gratifying.

Personnel: No report.

Policy: The committee recommended two minor policy changes: first, to the Membership policy to permit three-month cards to be issued to students participating in ongoing library programs (students who would not otherwise be eligible to borrow books without purchasing a non-resident card); and second, to clarify that weekend use of the Community Room will be charged at the same prices as weekday uses. Mrs. Orfan moved the changes and Ms. Thompson seconded the motion, which carried. After a discussion of the Unattended Child
issues, the Board decided to make no changes to the policy.

Long-Range Planning: will meet before the next Board meeting.¹

Communications: None.

Old Business: Ms. Brodsky told the Board that the staff had thoroughly enjoyed the breakfast (as did we). There is nothing to report on the lighting bids, the solar heating, or the Green Initiative.

New Business: Ms. Brodsky discussed a notice of hearing the library received from the Planning Board, about a proposal to open an Italian restaurant in the shop just south of the movie theater on Route 202. After discussion, the Board decided to take no position.

At 6:45 pm, Mrs. Wallace moved to adjourn; Mr. Burset seconded the motion, which carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Terry Thompson, Secretary

¹ After the Board meeting ended, an LRP meeting was set for Wednesday, July 9 at 10:15 am in the library.