

**TENAFLY PUBLIC LIBRARY**  
**MINUTES OF LIBRARY BOARD MEETING**  
**March 9, 2009**

The Board of Trustees of the Tenafly Public Library met on the above date at the Library for its regular monthly meeting.

Board Members Present: President Ellen Rochford, Secretary/Treasurer Lynda Burke, Mrs. Mabel Allen, Dr. Arthur Peck and Councilman Patrick Rouse.

Staff Present: Library Director Stephen Wechtler, Assistant Director Soon Juhng and Administrative Assistant Ann Marie Connolly.

Board Members Absent: Dr. Kenneth Altman, Vice President Kathleen Cook, Mr. David DiGregorio and Dr. Everett Fergenson.

Mrs. Rochford called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Mr. Wechtler stated that notices of the meeting had been sent to local papers, Cablevision and were posted on the Library and Borough bulletin boards.

Board members approved the minutes of the Library Board meeting of February 9, 2009. Moved by: Mrs. Rochford. Seconded by: Dr. Peck.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

In a letter dated February 27, 2009 from Carrie Ryan, the Library received a copy of the Last Will and Testament of Arthur Giraudy which bequeaths \$10,000 to the Tenafly Public Library, "absolutely and outright." Mr. Giraudy was the General Manager of the Knickerbocker Country Club for thirty-two years. The Board expressed its appreciation for this generous gift.

Mr. Wechtler made available conference brochures he received from the NJ State Library Trustee Institute announcing registration for its sixth conference to be held Saturday, May 9, 2009 at the Marriott Princeton Hotel and Conference Center at Forrestal. The one day event will feature two separate tracks for the new and experienced trustees. The State Library will pay the registration for one trustee.

**DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Mr. Frank Mottola, Director of the Department of Buildings, informed Mr. Wechtler that on February 25, 2009 Barone Engineering Associates had submitted its proposal (\$19,000.) to prepare technical specifications and scope drawings to upgrade the control system for the main air handling system of the library. This is in addition to the proposals for engineering services previously received from OMDEX (\$9,950.) and Linwood Engineering (\$19,800.). The three quotations are being considered by Mr. Mottola.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

Mr. Wechtler provided comparison statistics regarding the current surge in library use. There was a 9.3% increase in circulation for the months of October, November, December 2008 compared to those same months in 2007. In January 2009 there was a 6.2% increase in books and media titles borrowed compared to January 2008. Also, there was a 34% increase in Sunday circulation in January 2009 compared to January 2008 and a 27% increase in Sunday circulation in February 2009 compared to February 2008. Among the 75 libraries of BCCLS, reciprocal borrowing increased 40% from January 2008 to January 2009. There has also been a sharp increase in questions asked of Reference librarians over the past six months, especially job and career search queries. Patrons are also turning to our PCs or Internet access more than ever, as well as to our wireless service. Many are job search and career related queries.

The Board was unanimous in its appreciation of the new wood panels in the Children's Room created by Wood Artisans of Norwood, New Jersey. Along with the new book shelves and shelf tops which have increased the book and media capacity of the room, the panels have helped considerably to make the Children's Room a warm and inviting space.

Mr. Wechtler discussed with the Board an e-mail from Robert White, Executive Director of BCCLS, regarding the legislation (A 3753) currently in the New Jersey Assembly. Mr. White thanked member libraries for their strong response to the New Jersey League of Municipalities' attempt to cut the minimum funding for New Jersey libraries in half. Library Boards of Trustees responded overwhelmingly, with 53 Library Boards in BCCLS communities approving resolutions against the league resolution to cut the level of support to public libraries from 1/3 to 1/6 mil.

Programs in March include “Art/1900-1920” on March 18 at 1:00 p.m. with art historian Vesna Mison and “Japan: A Country of Treasures” slide lecture with photographer Lorraine Matys on March 25 at 1:00 p.m.

The Board expressed its enthusiasm for the “Tea Cups” exhibit presented by library employee Frances Parise.

Art Exhibits in the Edna Kawulitzki Gallery have been scheduled through February 2010. Mr. Wechtler thanked Mrs. Allen for her help in publicizing the exhibits and the volunteer members of the Art Committee for their time and efforts. The Board thanked Mr. Wechtler for his help in arranging the popular and exciting exhibits.

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m. Moved by: Ms. Burke. Seconded by: Mrs. Rochford.

Respectfully submitted,

The next regular meeting of the  
Library Board of Trustees will be  
**Monday, April 13, 2009**  
at the Library.

Stephen R. Wechtler  
Library Director

**Approved: April 13, 2009**