

**TENAFLY PUBLIC LIBRARY**  
**MINUTES OF LIBRARY BOARD MEETING**  
**APRIL 13, 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: Vice President Kathleen Cook, Dr. Kenneth Altman, Mr. David DiGregorio, Dr. Arthur Peck and Councilman Patrick Rouse.

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

Board Members Absent: President Ellen Rochford, Secretary/Treasurer Lynda Burke, Mrs. Mabel Allen, and Dr. Everett Ferguson.

Mrs. Cook 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 March 9, 2009. Moved by: Mrs. Cook. Seconded by: Dr. Peck.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

Robert White, BCCLS Executive Director, sent a letter of March 7, 2009 thanking the Friends of the Library for its donation of \$100. to the BCCLS Scholarship fund in memory of Mary Lou Abrams, former Director of the Paramus Public Library.

Mrs. Cook signed and Mrs. Kolben notarized the Release and Refunding Bond for the generous unrestricted bequest to the Library of \$10,000 from the estate of Arthur Giraudy who was the General Manager of the Knickerbocker County Club for thirty-two years. This bequest will be deposited into an account at the New Jersey Cash Management Fund.

**DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

The Booksale is scheduled for April 17 through April 19. Mr. Wechtler has volunteers signed up to help with the sale setup. Board members volunteered to participate.

On Sunday, May 3 at 2:30 p.m. acclaimed pianist Steven Masi will present a recital of works by Chopin, Ravel, Mozart and Beethoven.

On Monday, May 4 at 8:00 p.m. the Foreign Policy Discussion Group will have as a guest speaker His Excellency Rafat Mahdi, who was with the United Nations from 2001 to 2008 as a Senior Adviser with the Department of Peacekeeping Operations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, UNDP and Member of the Iraq Team at the UN Department of Political Affairs. In addition to his diplomatic career, Ambassador Mahdi is a Faculty Supervisor at the New School University, New York for the Masters Program in the Graduate Program of International Affairs.

On Sunday, May 17 at 2:30 p.m. pianist Lamont Barlow and Katie Sumrow, mezzo-soprano, will present a piano voice recital.

Governor Corzine announced his FY10 budget (July 2009 – June 2010), and library programs are facing reductions. In this budget the Governor recommended the following reductions: \$551,000 reduction to NJKI to \$1,059,000; a 10% cut of \$797,000 in the state per capita aid program to \$7,177,500; 10% cut of \$478,000 for the NJ Library Network to \$4,279,000; and a 10% cut of \$130,000 for the Virtual Library Aid program to \$1,170,000. The total in reductions in this budget from FY09 is \$2,346,000 or over 14%. In the past four years, library programs have received a 22.76% cut in state funding which equals \$4,038,000.

The Tenaflly Public Library's first quarter circulation is up 11% (51,515) over the first quarter of 2008. Year 2008 circulation of 185,074 was the highest ever. This year, at our current pace, we will exceed that amount by 21,000. Sundays in March saw the most circulation ever with March 1 at 679. Adult fiction, children's and adult media are all sharply up. The reference department, computer use and children's programs are all being heavily utilized. The Englewood Public Library along with the Teaneck Library do not answer their phones on Sundays because of staff cuts and high library usage. The Tenaflly Public Library has sent out 6,743 packages (each package = 1 to 5 items) via the Velocity delivery service between 1/2/09 – 3/31/09.

#### **HVAC Update**

The Board considered the proposals for engineering for mechanical and electrical design services for the Library HVAC system. Mr. Frank Mottola, Director of the Department of Buildings, has reviewed the three proposals from OMDEX Engineering (\$9,950), Linwood Engineering (\$19,800) and Barone Engineering (\$19,000). After further discussion with OMDEX, Mr. Mottola recommended that they provide engineering services. OMDEX's cost includes the fee of \$9,950 plus reimbursable services of \$2,000. The \$2,000 would include two additional site visits. After discussion the Board approved the following resolution:

**BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED THAT:** The Board of Trustees of the Free Public Library of the Borough of Tenaflly approves of the proposal for mechanical and electrical design services for the existing HVAC system for a fee of \$9,950. plus reimbursable expenses not to exceed \$2,000. submitted by Omdex Incorporated Consulting Engineers on January 27, 2009.

Moved by: Dr. Altman

Seconded by: Mrs. Cook

Voting as follows:

Dr. Altman - Aye

Dr. Peck - Aye

Mrs. Cook - Aye

Councilman Rouse - Aye

Mr. DiGregorio - Aye

#### **OTHER BUSINESS**

Mr. Wechtler exhibited Albert and Renate Cafiero's generous gift to the Library of the book The Dwigins Marionettes by Dorothy Abbe. This work, subtitled A Complete Experimental Theatre in Miniature, is a unique treasure that the Library will display in exhibits.

As part of its 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, BCCLS is inviting patrons who love their libraries to become Library Champions by entering their email addresses into the BCCLS database. When important library issues arise, BCCLS will email the Library Champions so that they can take appropriate action, such as phone calls, emails to legislators or simply talking up the library to their neighbors. To become a Library champion, simply go to the BCCLS homepage and click the "Library Champion" link.

On April 8 at 11:00 a.m. in the McCandless Room, Children's Librarian Latricia Markle held a very successful program "Fun on a String" – a unique variety puppet and marionette show funded by the Friends of the Library and attended by over ninety patrons.

The meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m. Moved by: Dr. Altman Seconded by: Mrs. Cook.

Respectfully submitted,

The next regular meeting of the Library Board of Trustees will be **Monday, May 11, 2009** at the Library.

Stephen R. Wechtler  
Library Director

APPROVED: June 8, 2009