

TENAFLY PUBLIC LIBRARY
MINUTES OF LIBRARY BOARD MEETING
MAY 11, 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, Secretary/Treasurer Lynda Burke, Dr. Kenneth Altman, and Councilman Patrick Rouse.

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

Board Members Absent: President Ellen Rochford, Mrs. Mabel Allen, Mr. David DiGregorio, Dr. Everett Ferguson and Dr. Arthur Peck.

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 did not approve the minutes of the Library Board meeting of April 13, 2009, because there was no quorum.

CORRESPONDENCE

Mrs. Doris Hoffman and family of Maywood donated a check of \$50. for the purchase of a book in memory of Beatrice Reichenberg.

Susan Pettigrano, Director of Volunteer Service at the New Jersey Veterans Home at Paramus, sent a letter of April 29, 2009 thanking the Library for its donation of books on tape to the residents. These items were left over on April 19 after the booksale. Tenafly volunteer Ms. Lorraine Kapjakian has done an outstanding job of coordinating the pickup and delivery of a large portion of booksale materials.

The Library received a check of \$10,000 from the Estate of Arthur Giraudy, in a letter of April 22, 2009 from Ms. Carrie Ryan, Exrx. This money has been deposited into the New Jersey Cash Management Fund.

Robert White, Executive Director of BCCLS, sent an email dated May 11, 2009 alerting all concerned that Senator Brian Stack (Democrat of Hudson County and Mayor of Union City, NJ) has introduced bill S. 2775 which would reduce the minimum funding for public libraries to 1/6 mil from 1/3 mil of the equalized valuation of the real property. An alert will be posted to BCCLS Champions on the BCCLS website.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Wechtler was happy to report that Mrs. Rochford is recovering very nicely from her recent illness and is grateful for the many gifts and good wishes she has received. She is enjoying all of the library updates and hopes to be present at the next Board meeting in June.

The annual Booksale (April 17 through April 19) was a great success. Mr. Wechtler stressed that the total earnings of \$2,703. were due to the hard work of twenty-four wonderful, dedicated volunteers and library staff. The Board expressed its appreciation to Mr. Wechtler.

In an email dated April 28, 2009, Borough Administrator Joseph DiGiacomo advised that there has been a revision to the 2009 budget. The Library will be charged \$10,600. for payroll processing and purchasing expenses.

HVAC Update

Mr. Wechtler signed the final OMDEX proposal for mechanical and electrical design services on May 8, 2009. OMDEX will now create detailed specifications so that the updated HVAC project can go out to bid. The Board expressed concern with the amount of time OMDEX is taking to get started on the work and would like OMDEX to provide a timeframe for completion of the proposal.

OTHER BUSINESS

Over one hundred people enjoyed pianist Steven Masi's recital of works by Chopin, Ravel, Mozart and Beethoven on Sunday, May 3 at 2:30p.m. A discussion followed concerning having future recitals after the Library is closed and what liability is involved if no maintenance personnel are on duty. Mr. Wechtler was asked to find out if the presence at the Library of qualified maintenance personnel would be required.

On Monday, May 4, 2009, forty-one people attended the Foreign Policy Discussion Group meeting. The guest speaker was His Excellency Rafat Mahdi who spoke on the topic: "US – Pakistan Relations: Collaboration on the War on Terror – Challenges & Opportunities." Mr. Wechtler expressed his appreciation to Board member David DiGregorio who set up the sound system and video recording of this program.

On Tuesday, May 12, Alice Renner Rigney & Paul J. Stefanowicz will present their new book Images of America: Tenaflly in the Edna Kawulitzki Gallery. A book signing will follow.

The Board discussed bi-lingual children's storytimes hosted by volunteers for the many different language groups that live in Tenaflly. In the month of May there will be a trial offering of two Hebrew storytimes. The stories will be read in both English and Hebrew. Any future bi-lingual storytimes would be multi-cultural, inclusive and scheduled about every two weeks. However, the Board wished to discuss this further at its June 8 meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 8:24p.m. Moved by: Mrs. Cook. Seconded by: Councilman Rouse.

The next regular meeting of the Library Board of Trustees will be **Monday, June 8, 2009** at the Library.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen R. Wechtler
Library Director

APPROVED: June 8, 2009