

Hillsdale Free Public Library

Board of Trustees Meeting

March 10, 2008

In attendance were: James Borowski, Marsha Demarest, Marie Hanlon, Warren Harris, John Sapanara, Alan Saslowsky, Gary Weir

Also present: David Franz, Director of the Library, Andrew Weinstein, Council Liaison

Excused: Rod Capawana, Dr. Elliott Lichtstein

Ms. Marie Hanlon, President, called to order a meeting of the Trustees of the Free Public Library of Hillsdale, Bergen County, New Jersey. Notice of this meeting was transmitted to the newspaper of record, filed with the Borough Clerk, and posted on the Library's website and bulletin board, in accordance with the Open Public Meeting's Law.

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 PM. Mr. Weir made a motion to approve the February minutes, Mr. Borowski seconded. Unanimous vote of approval.

Public comments: There were no public comments.

President's Report: Ms. Hanlon: She wanted to know when the Library will be receiving its Borough funding. Mr. Franz reminded Harold Karns and it is forthcoming. Ms. Hanlon deferred the rest of her comments to the general meeting.

Treasurer's Report: Mr. Borowski underscored the desire for the Library to receive first quarter support monies due to the Library as soon as possible.

Director's Report: Mr. Franz (see attached): The Trustees conference will be held in the Spring of 2009 instead of this Fall. Mr. Franz clarified what "discharges" are and it is an additional measure of staff productivity. Overall, the Library is performing very well. Mr. Franz directed the Board members to a chart of circulation and population for BCCLS libraries. For our budget and population, we have the second highest circulation per capita. Mayor Sapanara asked if there is any benefit to this. The net lender statistic generates compensation from the consortium. Ms. Hanlon suggested that these very positive highlights should be made more public on Channel 77. The Library staff enjoyed a Leap Day social at a staff member's house.

Mr. Franz met with three public members who have expressed interest in serving on our Library Advisory Board and had a very cordial meeting. One would like to see the Library be the "hub" of the community. One member felt that we could improve our recycling efforts with paper/cardboard and the Mayor said that overall the town has netted increased revenues from paper recycling. Mr. Weir suggested putting signs on the computers about using the recycling paper bins exclusively. The advisory board was concerned about patron behavior. Specifically cell phone usage and noise control. There are cell phone signs all over the library and on the computers. Some of the students' behaviors are unruly in a public setting. Mr. Franz and staff monitor these behaviors as much as possible and parents have been called. Mr. Saslowsky said that there are after-care programs at Smith and Meadowbrook School for a fee; parents sometimes look upon the Library as a substitute for that. Mr. Franz will address filtering at the April meeting, especially for the children's room. He will email Library Board members last year's filtering information at their request.

Ms. Hanlon said that Jenny Frantin had started the Hillsdale walking tour when the town celebrated its Centennial and Mr. Franz is working with the Hillsdale Historic Preservation Committee to start that again. There was a discussion about historic homes and structures in town. Mr. Franz suggested

contacting the realtor for a particular home currently for sale on Ell Road and photograph the home for historic purposes. Mr. Franz suggested that if anyone comes across old items and photographs at house sales, to please purchase them and the Library would display them. Mayor Sapanara said that in the past Hillsdale oriented items would be stored with the Park Ridge Historical Society, but he recommended that they could be redirected here, space permitting. The Mayor said that there are old photographs and records in the basement of the borough hall and he felt that they should come to the Library; Mr. Franz was receptive to this suggestion. Mr. Weir suggested that items from the Town Centennial be re-issued again to honor the 110th anniversary, occurring this year. Ms. Hanlon suggested mentioning the town's 110th anniversary in The Hillsdale Herald or on the town website. Information will be presented on the surveillance cameras at the April meeting by Mr. Franz and Dr. Lichtstein; the cost is expected to be about \$4,000-5000 and there is money in the budget to cover this as well as NJ State aid. Board members did not want money taken out of the reserve fund unless necessary. Mr. Franz will be attending the Public Library Assoc. three day conference the end of this month.

The Friends: Mr. Weir said that *The Friends* agreed to pay \$3,000 for items for the summer reading program. They are also supporting digitizing of old newspapers at a cost of \$6,000.

New Business: Mr. Weir suggested revisiting the Library's Five Year Plan. It is on the trustee's page of the Library website and will be on the April agenda.

Mayor Sapanara spoke about a reception sponsored by the Bergen Co. Volunteer's Association on April 9th at Bergen Academies in Hackensack. This Association will be honoring volunteers of hospitals, schools, libraries etc. Ms. Hanlon and Mr. Franz will recommend some wonderful volunteer's names. Submission deadline is April 1st.

Mr. Franz spoke about the home delivery program. Only two deliveries have been made thus far. Mr. Franz agreed to speak at the Seniors' luncheon in April. Ms. Hanlon asked about the 'mud slide' by the driveway; Mr. Franz will look into that with possible pavers. The Sundial Club continues to maintain the flower bed in the spring/summer. Ms. Hanlon would very much like to see a canopy outside the children's room by the sliding doors for the summer months. Mr. Franz expressed some concern about wind and vandalism.

The next Library Board meeting will be on April 14, 2008. Ms. Demarest made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Mr. Saslowsky seconded. The meeting officially adjourned at 8:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Deirdre M. Danaher
Recording Secretary