

## Hillsdale Free Public Library

### Board of Trustees Meeting

May 12, 2008

---

In attendance were: James Borowski , Marie Hanlon, Warren Harris, Dr. Elliott Lichtstein, John Sapanara, Gary Weir

Also present: David Franz, Director of the Library

Excused: Rod Capawana, Marsha Demarest, Allen Saslowsky

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 March minutes, Mr. Harris seconded. Unanimous vote of approval.

Public comments: There were no public comments.

President's Report: Ms. Hanlon: Ms. Hanlon's letter of resignation was not yet received and acknowledged formally by the Mayor and Council, but is on the agenda for tomorrow evening (5/13). The mayor anticipates an appointment to fill the vacancy at the first council meeting in June.

Treasurer's Report: Dr. Lichtstein deferred to the director's comments on the budget year to date. Mr. Franz is keeping an eye on utilities and expenditures on collection development. Bills were reviewed. The auditors were in and a report should be available in a few weeks. Mayor Sapanara informed the Library Board that a new library law was passed that somewhat softens the effectiveness of the 1/3 mil funding mandate. The implementation of this law is still in process at the state level. Mr. Franz was aware of it and will monitor the possible effect on the library. It is Mr. Franz's understanding that the law was written primarily with respect to small shore communities.

Director's Report: Mr. Franz (see attached): The library received several donations in memory of Jack Weldon. Memorial book plates will be placed in books purchased with these funds. The Pascack Junior Women's Club donated \$220 for a future children's program. The library has the lowest cost per circulation, \$3.55, out of the 75 member libraries of the Bergen County Cooperative Library System.

Courtesy Card Policy Review: The board continued its discussion of courtesy cards for people volunteering within Hillsdale, but living in a town that does not support a public library, or a member library of BCCLS. Mr. Franz detailed the difficulty the library could face in documenting volunteer service within the town. Some members felt active volunteer service that could be documented deserved to be considered.

Motion by Mr. Weir: The library extends the privilege of a courtesy library card to active member volunteers of the Hillsdale emergency service agencies (fire, police auxiliary, ambulance) that are not residents of Hillsdale and who have no other access to a public library in the Bergen County Cooperative Library System. Cards must be renewed annually. Second: JB, passed unanimously.

Internet Filtering: Mr. Franz, Mr. Harris, and Mr. Weir are evaluating Netnanny. Mr. Franz documented many hazards while using the filter. Mr. Harris could not read a copy of the New Jersey Constitution. It

was blocked for gambling references. The evaluation of filters continues, but the effectiveness of this particular product is mixed.

Surveillance Cameras: Dr. Lichtstein and Mr. Franz reported that the equipment order was placed with CDW Government. The order was for \$3,338.84. Equipment should be delivered within 2 to 3 weeks.

The Friends: Mr. Weir distributed a flyer for the first Hillsdale Film Festival during the summer (5 films) moderated by a film professor from Ramapo College. Refreshments will be made available. The Friends are also sponsoring the summer reading program. A fundraising letter will go out in September.

New Business: Mr. Franz inquired if might be more convenient to meet on the third Monday instead of the current second Monday. Mr. Capawana has a conflicting meeting on our nights. Some board members thought the third would be better. Others would have conflicts. As it stands the board will continue to meet on the second Monday.

Old Business: Ms. Hanlon inquired about the possibility of pavers along the driveway to prevent washouts. Dr. Lichtstein had second thoughts on the issue. Pavers might invite people to utilize the narrow strip as a walkway. The retaining wall height would not support a rail. Mr. Franz said the recently installed mulch seemed to be keeping the washout effect to a minimum. He will contact the landscaper for other possible solutions.

The next Library Board meeting will be on June 9, 2008. Mr. Weir made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Mr. Borowski seconded. The meeting officially adjourned at 8:25 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
*David J. Franz*  
Library Director