

Hillsdale Free Public Library

Board of Trustees Meeting

June 9, 2008

In attendance were: James Borowsk, Marsha Demarest, Warren Harris, Dr. Elliott Lichtstein, Allen Saslowsky, Gary Weir

Also present: David Franz, Director of the Library, Marie Hanlon, liaison to Council

Excused: Rod Capawana, Mayor John Sapanara

Mr. Borowski, vice-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 7:32 PM. Mr. Harris made a motion to approve the May minutes, Mr. Saslowsky seconded. No corrections. Unanimous vote of approval.

Public comments: Mr. Paul Gross, former trustee, was present and reserved comments until later in the meeting.

Selection of President: Ms. Hanlon submitted her resignation from the board and will assume the roll of liaison to Council. The board discussed amongst themselves a successor. Dr. Lichtstein nominated Mr. Borowski for the office of president. The vote was unanimous in favor.

Treasurer's Report: Dr. Lichtstein informed the board that he received and reviewed a copy of the final audit. He had attempted to contact the auditor with additional questions, but was unable to. One recommendation was made that the petty cash checks should be made payable to the custodian of the petty cash account instead of simply to cash. The audit was distributed among the board members for further review. Acceptance is deferred until the next meeting.

Director's Report: Mr. Franz (written report separately attached). Mr. Franz is serving on the ad hoc Rate Card committee for the Bergen County Cooperative Library System. The committee is investigating the current methods for charging libraries for BCCLS services and identifying possible inequities in billing formulas. The proposed database fee formula now considers population served and ability to pay (as a measure of 1/3 mil rate) in assessing the fee charged to each library. The new rate card structure is being presented to all library directors in a series of three small group meetings. Each library has representation at the BCCLS system council meetings. The budget and rate card are presented in September and a formal vote is taken at the October meeting. Dr. Lichtstein expressed concern over the cost of dedicated telecommunication lines for BCCLS transactions. Mr. Franz will further inquire with Robert White, Executive Director.

Internet Filtering: Mr. Franz, Mr. Harris, and Mr. Weir continue to evaluate filters. Mr. Gross was concerned that the library is leaving itself open to a big problem in the future without filters. Dr. Lichtstein's experience has been that they remain ineffective. The sub-committee was unimpressed with their test run of NetNanny. Other filters will be tested over the summer.

The Friends: Mr. Weir noted that the friends are funding the summer reading programs and the film festival. Mr. Franz will handle publicity for the town sign, website and channel 77. Mr. Franz reported

that nearly \$600 was raised during the weekend booksale. Half of these funds are shared with the American Legion as it is a joint book sale.

New Business:

The board discussed what an appropriate amount of funding should be held in reserve. Mr. Gross suggested making a list of all capital improvements that can be anticipated (paint, HVAC, roof, etc) and prorating that over the course of X years. Dr. Lichtstein requested that quotes be obtained from outside vendors for the HVAC systems.

Ms. Hanlon requested that the library participate in next year's Memorial Day Parade. Due to a variety of circumstances the board did not march this year. Mr. Franz will inquire with Laura and the Teen Advisory Group to plan for next year.

The July and August meetings will be suspended. Mr. Franz will forward financial reports and provide periodic updates via e-mail. The next Library Board meeting will be on September 8, 2008. Mrs. Demarest made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Mr. Weir seconded. The meeting officially adjourned at 8:32 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
David J. Franz
Library Director