

Hillsdale Free Public Library

Board of Trustees Meeting

January 12, 2009

In attendance were: Mayor John Sapanara, Barbara Abolafia, James Borowski, Marsha Demarest, Warren Harris, Dr. Elliott Lichtstein, Allen Saslowsky, Kelly Smith, Gary Weir

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

Mr. Borowski, 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 accept the December minutes, Mr. Saslowsky seconded. Unanimous vote of approval.

Public invited to speak: Dr. Lichtstein has been appointed to the Hillsdale Planning Board and cannot serve on two boards. Therefore, he is regrettably resigning his position as a Library Trustee. Dr. Lichtstein thanked the Board profusely for their wonderful work and his tenure as a Trustee of the Board. Mr. Franz extended his very sincere gratitude to Dr. Lichtstein for his years of service on the Board, especially during the long, arduous months of construction. Dr. Lichtstein said he was grateful for Mr. Franz's negotiations with the auditor's fee.

President's Report: Mr. Borowski extended a warm welcome to our new trustee, Ms. Kelly Smith. For the slate of Board of Trustee officers for 2009, Mr. Borowski nominated Mr. Harris as President. For the office of Vice-President, Ms. Demarest was suggested, pending her re-appointment. Mr. Borowski was nominated to serve as Treasurer. Mr. Weir made a motion to approve, Ms. Abolafia seconded. There was a unanimous vote of approval for this slate of officers for the 2009 year.

Treasurer's Report: No treasurer's report (see Director's report on the budget).

Director's Report: (see attached)

- ✚ The fourth quarter check has been received and deposited. Mr. Franz directed everyone's attention to the 2008 budget report. We are down \$6,000 in net lender reimbursement, but have a receivable due in January. The miscellaneous charge of \$3,711. was for the camera installation.
- ✚ The Senior Bridge group has asked to use the room two days a month, in addition to several other local groups. All town non-profit groups appreciate its availability.
- ✚ The elevator was repaired last week and the automatic door push pad will be repaired this week.
- ✚ The Library is fiscally sound. Mr. Franz met with other Libraries today at the Parsippany Library to discuss planning for State Library cuts. The NJ State Library has had budget cuts since 1990 and will most probably have a 20% cut this year. There are four regional Library co-operatives for the purposes of negotiating contracts such as inter-library deliveries. The State funds four day delivery and BCCLS pays for the fifth day of service. The League of Municipalities is recommending reducing funding to libraries from 1/3 to 1/6 of a mill. NJ Library Association would like to pass a resolution opposing this proposed legislation. The Mayor said that this has not been discussed among the Pascack Valley Mayors. Board members discussed sending a letter to the town voicing

its opinion. Mr. Weir suggested that we pass a resolution and send a copy of that to the League of Municipalities and to the other concerned parties. Mr. Weir suggested writing this resolution and it will be voted on at the next meeting. Mayor Sapanara spoke about what occurs around the State.

- ✚ Our circulation rate is the highest in Pascack Valley; we have an excellent reputation among our constituents.
- ✚ Mr. Borowski said that the auditor's fee of \$2,500. seems high. The auditor does auditing for Hillsdale Borough and has credentials to conduct municipal audits. The Mayor asked, if because our circulation is higher, is it a harder audit? Mr. Franz said no. Mr. Borowski said the size of our budget would drive pricing. Ms. Smith asked who the other libraries use and Mr. Franz will get quotes from them.

Request of use of the Meeting Room: A patron requested to use the Library meeting room for presenting a driver's safety course. Non-profits from Hillsdale can always request use of the meeting room. Mr. Weir said that we passed a resolution for "profit" groups. Mr. Weir recommended getting further clarification.

The Friends: Mr. Weir: \$1,900. was deposited from the recent fundraising drive; we have generous patrons.

New Business: Mr. Franz was contacted by Ms. Hanlon about signage supporting the opening of an acute-care hospital (formerly Pascack Valley Hospital). Town residents can pick up lawn signs by the Children's Room. The board voted to go into closed session and later returned to open session.

The next Library Board meeting will be on February 9, 2009. Mr. Harris moved to adjourn the meeting, Ms. Demarest seconded. The meeting officially adjourned at 9:12 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Deirdre M. Danaher
Recording Secretary