

LINDEN FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY
31 EAST HENRY STREET
LINDEN, NEW JERSEY
BOARD MEETING
BERNICE BEDRICK ROOM
MARCH 24, 2014

OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS LAW

The notice requirements of the Open Public Meetings Law have been satisfied in that a "48-hour" notice has been transmitted to ***THE LOCAL SOURCE, HOME NEWS TRIBUNE, STAR LEDGER***, City Clerk, posted at City Hall and in the Library.

FLAG SALUTE

ROLL CALL

PRESENT:

Robert Ayres
Joanna Colucci
Marilyn Coplan
Mayor Richard J. Gerbounka
Doris J. Henel
Joan A. Konrad
Doris Matey
Antoinette Modrak

Diane Wilverding

ALSO PRESENT:

Dennis Purves
Mary Purves
Luray Rusnock

ABSENT:

Dr. Danny Robertozzi (meeting)
Barbara Zamora

MINUTES

On a motion by Mayor Gerbounka, seconded by Marilyn Coplan and passed, approving the minutes of the February 24, 2014 meeting as prepared and ordered filed.

CORRESPONDENCE

President Wilverding reported no correspondence had been received since the last meeting.

TREASURER'S REPORT & FINANCE COMMITTEE

ROBERT AYRES, TREASURER:

- (1) Requesting approval to file the Treasurer's Report as prepared.
- (2) Requesting approval to authorize the payment of bills for the period of February 25, 2014 through March 24, 2014 in the amount of \$519,695.07.

Mr. Ayres explained that this is such a large amount for bills due to \$159,000 payable to the city for health benefits from April –December 2012 (\$159,000) and August – December 2013 (\$116,000.00). To cover the costs for these items, we will need to transfer \$130,000 from the Building Fund and transfer it to the General Fund.

President Wilverding asked if the Building Fund is an earmarked account.

Mr. Ayres responded that it is like a "slush fund". The health costs are astronomical.

A motion was made by Robert Ayres, seconded by Marilyn Coplan and passed to accept the reports and file them as prepared.

The Account Clerk will provide a revised 2012 budget in the next meeting's packet.

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS

DIANE WILVERDING, CHAIRPERSON:

Reported that she, Director Dennis Purves and the Mayor met with the Shade Tree Chairman Jack Sheehy to resolve the issue of the outside of the Library. From this date on, we will maintain what we have. The landscaper, ASPEN will not dig up any additional work at the Library. A letter was drafted and will be sent to the Shade Tree Commission informing them of these actions.

Mayor Gerbounka reported on the first reading of the ordinance restricting parking in the library lot by individuals who are not using the library.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Doris Henel, Chairperson:

Reported the evaluations for the Director, Account Clerk and Administrative Clerk that was scheduled for Monday has been rescheduled for Monday, April 7th.

Mrs. Henel informed the Board of the retirement of part time Senior Library Assistant Susan Schmidt. After discussion, a motion was made by Doris Henel, seconded by Marilyn Coplan authorizing the Director to recruit for the position for nineteen (19) hours per week.

FUND RAISING

Doris Matey, Chairperson:

The annual meeting is scheduled for Saturday, March 22nd from 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Friends' member Carol Hohl provided updates on the Friends have received from the Pathmark Community Rewards program.

Additionally, another fund raiser that has been planned is the Lord and Taylor for the month of April.

Additionally, Ms. Hohl reported she is in the process of organizing a Pizza Hut fund raiser for the Library.

President Wilverding expressed gratitude to Ms. Hohl and the Friends of the Library for their commitment to the Library and enthusiasm. It is encouraging to see the Friends working so hard.

POLICY COMMITTEE

JOANNA COLUCCI, CHAIRPERSON:

NO REPORT

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Director Dennis Purves reported on:

- 1) One of the PACs has failed. It will likely be replaced with an older CPU which we held on to from the old building.
- 2) Axis 360, our new e-book service, should launch in the middle of April.
- 3) The HVAC is in the process of being repaired.
- 4) We've continued to have intermittent problems with the phone lines having static. Verizon has been called each time. They seem fine now, and have been for a while, so hopefully whatever the problem was finally has been fixed.
- 5) Round two of negotiations with the professional union was held on Monday, March 17th. The second round of negotiations with the clerical union was scheduled for Monday, March 24th, but had to be rescheduled to Wednesday, April 9th.
- 6) Senior Library Assistant Susan Schmidt has submitted her intent to retire.
- 7) I am in the process of evaluating all staff minus the members of administration.
- 8) On Tuesday, February 25th, I attended the Chamber of Commerce meeting held at the Hampton Inn.
- 9) On Friday, February 28th, I attended the LUCC meeting held at the Summit Public Library. I have no information on the annual reception to share at this point.
- 10) On Wednesday, March 12th, we had our budget hearing. We are being kept at the 2013 budget amount.
- 11) From February 20th through March 19th, there were 3,340 checkouts, 2,953 checkins, and 297 renewals. The meeting rooms will have been used 18 times, plus one use of the computer lab.
- 12) The Friends of the Library annual meeting will be held on Saturday, March 22nd. I'm sure there will be a report given about it at next week's Board meeting.
- 13) Since the Board of Ed has changed their meeting dates to the same date as the Library Board, perhaps consideration can be given so that the dates of the Library Board meetings can be changed so the Superintendent can attend the Library Board meetings.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

NONE

NEW BUSINESS

The Board extended birthday wishes to Mrs. Coplan, who is having a birthday on Wednesday.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 28, 2014 at 6:30 p.m. in the Bernice Bedrick Meeting Room, 31 E. Henry Street, Linden.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Carol Hohl reported the Friends' Annual Meeting that is scheduled for Saturday, March 22, 2013 from 2:00-4:00 p.m.

Ms. Hohl also reported on a fund raiser scheduled for Tuesday, April 29th at Lord & Taylor in Westfield. Purchase your \$5 pass for a great all day sale event from February 27th through April 29th.

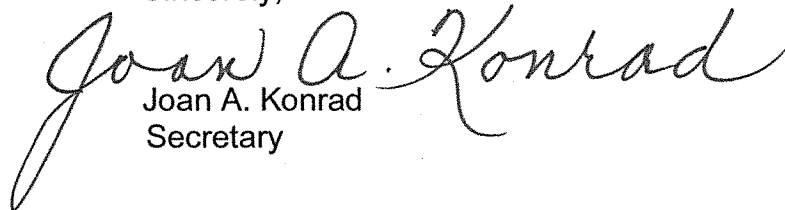
Ms. Hohl additionally reported on the upcoming Barclays Gold Tournament from August 19th – 24th at the Ridgewood Country Club. More details will be made available.

President Wilverding thanked Ms. Hohl for her comments.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Mayor Gerbounka, seconded by Doris Henel and passed, the meeting adjourned at 7:17 p.m.

Sincerely,


Joan A. Konrad
Secretary