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
Doris J. Henel
Joan Konrad
Gregory Martucci
Doris Matey

Diane Wilverding, President

**ALSO PRESENT:**
Dennis Purves
Mary Purves
Luray Rusnock

**EXCUSED:** Mayor Derek Armstead
Dr. Robertozzi
REORGANIZATION

President Wilverding turned the reorganizational portion of the meeting over to Joanna Colucci, Chairperson of the Nominating Committee.

Mrs. Colucci reported the nominating committee consisting of Doris Henel, Greg Martucci and her hereby present the following slate of officers for 2015 as follows:

- President: Diane Wilverding
- 1st Vice President: Marilyn Coplan
- 2nd Vice President: Doris Matey
- Treasurer: Robert Ayres
- Secretary: Joan Konrad

Are there any nominations from the floor? Hearing none, a motion was made to close nominations and install the duly elected slate of officers as presented? Greg Martucci made the motion, seconded by Doris Henel.

Mrs. Colucci congratulated the 2015 slate of officers which are now duly elected and installed. She turned the floor back over to President Wilverding. President Wilverding thanked all for their support and cooperation.

MINUTES

On a motion by Doris Henel, seconded by Joanna Colucci and passed, approving the minutes of the previous meeting (January 12, 2015) as prepared and ordered filed.

CORRESPONDENCE

President Wilverding reported on the correspondence that had been received since the last meeting:

1) Thank you note from Senior Library Assistant Marlane Joback for the token presented upon her retirement.
2) From Council President Jorge Alvarez requesting a monthly attendance report for the Board faxed/sent following each meeting.
3) From Mayor Derek Armstead appointing Dr. Marlena Berghammer as the Mayor’s Alternate to the Library Board beginning January 1, 2015 and expiring December 31, 2016.

**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 January 13, 2015 through March 9, 2015 in the amount of $243,685.21.

A motion was made by Marilyn Coplan, seconded by Joanna Colucci and passed approving the corrected revenue from 2014 -- $80,433.76 carried over from 2013 and $30,000 corrected revenue carried over from 2012.

Mr. Ayres reported on the previous scheduled budget hearings which concluded with no allocation being indicated.

The Board discussed various options for reducing the budget.

Board President recommended the Personnel and Finance committees meet to discuss how to “stretch the funding.”

Mr. Ayres stated that the Board should be able to get through April with the current budget. By then the Library Board should have the budget allocation.
BUILDINGS & GROUNDS
DIANE WILVERDING, CHAIRPERSON:

President Wilverding reported nothing is happening outside currently.

She had no report.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE
Doris Henel, Chairperson:

On a motion by Joanna Colucci, seconded by Marilyn Coplan and passed, the Board went into executive session at 7:00 p.m.

On a motion by Doris Matey, seconded by Joanna Colucci and passed, the public meeting reopened at 7:25 p.m.

FUND RAISING
Doris Matey, Chairperson:

Mrs. Matey turned the floor over to Friends President Dawn Beviano who reported the following Children’s Day/Book Day is Thursday, April 30. We will be working with the children’s librarian to put together something for this date for the children.

The month of September is Library Card sign up month. The Friends will be promoting the library and encouraging everyone to get their library cards. We will have various programs to bring students and their families into the library. Details will come as we get closer to the month.

The City’s September to Remember event is Saturday, September 26 from 11:00 a.m. to 9 p.m. The Friends will, for the 3rd year, be promoting the Friends and the Library. Raffles and used book sales will be held as well.
Friends of the Library week is October 19-23. The Friends will be working on events/programs for each day to promote our organization and the library.

November is Picture Book Month. We will be working with the Children’s librarian to put together some programs during the month for the toddlers.

International Games Day is November 21. Since the library is closed that day, we will host a family board game day on Saturday, November 14.

Movie events will be occurring more often. Our goals are to hold two (2) a month. One for children/families, and one for adults/Senior Citizens. DVDs will be purchased for these events and then donated to the library.

A new fund raiser – Family Portrait Day is being planned. A local photographer has agreed to do family photo sessions for us. More information will come shortly.

Our largest fundraiser is our membership drive. We will be voting on March 21st, to raise the membership fees of the Friends, to go into effect in June 2015. Our fees have not been raised since the organization was formed. In speaking with other library Friends organizations, ours are the lowest around. The new fees, to be voted on will be:

$5 for Students/Senior Citizens
$10 for Individuals
$25 for families
$50 patrons
$200 life (anyone who is all ready on the 2nd and 3rd year of our current Patron membership fees, will continue to pay $25 towards their $100 lifetime membership. New Patrons will be $50).

“Fill our Shelves” – since we have lost quite bit of funding from the City due to our budget cuts, we are trying to be creative in our fundraising efforts to help offset the library’s budget. With this program, donors will be able to donate monies and tell us what form of book/CD/DVD they prefer we purchase. From there we will donate monies and tell us what form of book/CD/DVD they prefer we purchase.
From there we will work with the library to bring in the newest item in that category.

$10 – paperback
$15 – Music CD
$20 - Magazine Subscription
$25 – Movie DVD
$30 – Hardcover Book
$50 – Large print or Audio Book

The patron can then direct the monies to be utilized towards Fiction, Non-Fiction, Adult, Young Adult, Children, Mystery, Sci-Fi/Fantasy, Romance, Western, or no preference.

Book and other items purchased will be designed with a book plate, a pressure sensitive sticker, that the patron can have their name added to or that of a loved one, for no additional cost.

Fundraising bus trips – dates to be determined:

Atlantic City
Sands Bethlehem PA.
Mount Airy – Poconos
Sight and Sound (Dinner and a show) Lancaster, PA.
Hunterdon Hills Playhouse

If you have any ideas for fundraisers/library events, please contact a Friends Board member.

Museum passes will be coming to the library this year as well. The Friends board is trying to determine the best museums for the price, as this is an expensive, yearly renewable subscription, that we need to make sure is covered each year in our budget. These museum passes will allow a family to check out the pass and visit the museum for free. The Library has set up a system in the computer, so that only Friends Members can check out these passes.

A quarterly newsletter will be produced and sent to all Friends members. We are hoping to garner more email addresses to cut down on mailing costs. The newsletter will keep the Friends informed of events, fundraisers, news, etc. The first newsletter is tentatively scheduled for April.
**POLICY COMMITTEE**
JOANNA COLUCCI, CHAIRPERSON:

NO REPORT

**DIRECTOR'S REPORT**
Director Dennis Purves reported on:

1) From the February, 2015 report we are in the process of installing PrinterOn, and staff should be trained on its use next week. Afterward, we will make it available to the public.

2) The Library’s Facebook and Twitter pages are now linked, so that posting on Facebook will automatically post on Twitter and get our information to more people in the same amount of time.

3) On Thursday, February 5th, I have a meeting with the city Council Technology Committee.

4) The book drop is once again functioning. Dwayne Cipas reprogrammed the unit so that it will remain open indefinitely, so we should no longer have the problem of it randomly closing itself. However, by doing so he had to disconnect the external lights which help patrons find it in the dark. We are ordering a circuit board that should put the book drop back to full functionality.

5) Building Systems and Services returned to work on the HVAC system.

6) From February 2nd – 4th our phone lines were spotty, and at one point we only had one functional line. Verizon fixed the problem.

7) Most staff have been trained or retrained on various circulation issues. By next week all staff will have been trained.

8) Building Maintenance Worker Tony Czylek is currently out on leave, recovering from surgery.

9) On Friday, January 16th I attended the LUCC meeting held at the East Brunswick Public Library. At that meeting it was determined that the Hillside Public Library would be suspended from MURAL as of March 1st due to it being closed for nearly two (2) years with no definite reopening date.

10) From January 9th through February 4th there were 2,571 checkouts, 2,700 checkins, and 295 renewals. The meeting rooms were used eleven (11) times in January, and the computer lab was used once.
11) Work on the HVAC system has concluded.
12) The necessary equipment to make the book drop fully functional has arrived and been installed. Hopefully, we will have no further issues with the book drop.
13) On February 25th, Senior Librarian Elizabeth Piskorik attended the LUCC Adult Services Organization Meeting at the New Providence Memorial Library.
14) While we did have a budget hearing on February 9th, no conclusion has been met as to our 2015 budget.
15) On Tuesday, February 17th, I attended the Linden Industrial Association meeting held at the Hampton Inn.
16) On Tuesday, February 24th, I attended the Chamber of Commerce meeting, held at the library.
17) On Friday, February 27th, I attended the LUCC meeting held at the Garwood Public Library. As of March 1st, Hillside Library was suspended from MURAL.
18) From February 4th through March 5th, there were 2,765 checkouts, 2,768 checkins, and 260 renewals.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS
NONE

NEW BUSINESS
MEMORIAL FOR CAROL HOHL- President Wilverding discussed the loss of Friends of Linden Library member Carol Hohl who recently passed away suddenly. She recommended a plaque (or token) be purchased by the Board in recognition of her efforts for the library. Anyone interested in donating should see her.

All Board members agreed with President Wilverding.
NEXT MEETING
The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 13, 2015 at 6:30 p.m. in the Bernice Bedrick Meeting Room, 31 E. Henry Street, Linden.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC
Linden resident Patricia Hero commented on the loss of Carol Hohl and how active she was with the Friends of Linden Library.

The Board members agreed that Ms. Hohl's passing will be a loss for the library. She was very committed to the Library.

ADJOURNMENT
On a motion by Greg Martucci, seconded by Doris Henel and passed, the meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Sincerely,
Joan A. Conrad
Secretary