The Larchmont Public Library Board of Trustees met on November 12, 2008 at 6:30 PM at the Larchmont Public Library. Present were Board Chair Miriam Curnin; Trustees David Birch, Pamela Tillinghast Dubitsky, Maureen LeBlanc, Joan Macfarlane, and John McGarr; Town of Mamaroneck Liaison Valerie O'Keeffe; Friends’ Liaison Harriet Kline, and Library Director Diane Courtney.

The minutes of the Library Board meeting of October 15, 2008 were unanimously approved as presented upon motion of Joan Macfarlane, seconded by David Birch. The minutes of the Library Board special meeting of October 20, 2008 were unanimously approved as presented upon motion of Maureen LeBlanc, seconded by Joan Macfarlane.

Harriet Kline reported that the Friends have sent membership renewals/fundraising letters to 900 active and inactive members, and that at their meeting next week, the Friends will write personal solicitations to acquaintances who are not members. Ms. Kline then reported on the November programs the Friends had or would be presenting: November 2, Peter Kaplan; November 13--a weekday morning program, The Power of Color; and, on November 16, four short plays by M&M Productions. The Board thanked Ms. Kline for her report.

The Board reviewed the schedules of bills dated 11/03/08 and 11/12/08. After discussion both schedules were unanimously approved upon motion of David Birch seconded by Pamela Tillinghast Dubitsky. The Board received the performance report dated 11/03/08.

Trustees LeBlanc and McGarr reviewed their meeting with Village Treasurer Brucciani. They left his office with the impression that the Library's Children's Room Renovation funds had been transferred to Bank of America. However, later that week they realized that the Library's funds had been co-mingled with the Village's instead of remaining in separate accounts. (The amounts in question were $1,020,000 and $415,000.) They have already conveyed their concern about this to Mr. Brucciani and will have a further meeting with him to ensure that the funds are redirected and the Library's accounts kept separate and discrete. Board Chair Curnin noted that the Board has fiduciary responsibility to the taxpayers and also wants to minimize the amount of bookkeeping that co-mingling would necessitate, e.g., interest payments. It was noted that the Village's account does offer the advantage of being tied to LIBOR, an option no longer available for new accounts, and that this was Mr. Brucciani's reason for co-mingling the accounts. In addition, Trustees LeBlanc and McGarr are investigating interest rates at TDNorth and HSBC, among other institutions, and working with Mr. Brucciani to ensure that we are maximizing our return. Board Chair Curnin thanked Trustees LeBlanc and McGarr for their work on this and stressed that it is essential that there be transparency and clarity in all fiscal dealings.

Board Chair Curnin then described one significant design change on the Children's Room project: the first floor lobby will be scaled back, and will be a glass cube rather than an oval shape. The oval will remain on the second floor and this change will make it float sculpturally above the first floor. In addition, now that the structural engineer has stated unequivocally that the plaster ceiling of the first floor must be removed, she will schedule a meeting with the Mayor to discuss this piece of additional and unexpected work.

Upon motion of John McGarr, seconded by Maureen LeBlanc, the meeting was adjourned at 7:45 PM.
Respectfully Submitted,

Diane Courtney