

**LARCHMONT PUBLIC LIBRARY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MINUTES OF MEETING
MARCH 11, 2009**

The Larchmont Public Library Board of Trustees met on at March 11, 2009 at 6:30 PM. Present were Board Chair Miriam Curnin, Trustees David Birch, Pamela Tillinghast Dubitsky, Joan Macfarlane, Maureen LeBlanc, Carolyn Parlato and John McGarr; Village of Larchmont Liaison Marlene Kolbert; and Library Director Diane Courtney.

The minutes of the Board meeting of February 11, 2009 were approved unanimously upon motion of Joan Macfarlane, seconded by Pamela Tillinghast Dubitsky. The minutes of the Special Board meeting of February 27, 2009 were unanimously approved upon motion of Carolyn Parlato, seconded by Maureen LeBlanc.

The schedules of bills dated March 9, 2009 were unanimously approved upon motion by Maureen LeBlanc, seconded by David Birch.

The Board received the budget performance report dated March 9, 2009.

In the absence of Harriet Kline, Liaison of the Friends of the Larchmont Public Library, Board Chair Curnin reported that the Friends have a new slate of officers who will be installed at the Friends' annual meeting on May 12. At that meeting there will also be a photo op of the Friends giving the Library \$25,000 for the Children's Room Renovation. This is an additional sum above the Friends' original gift of \$50,000 and the Board expressed its deep appreciation to the Friends. Bridget Paolucci will be presenting her final lecture on opera at a program on March 29 that will be jointly sponsored by the Friends and the Library and Mrs. Curnin urged everyone to attend.

The Director then proposed a revision to the Library's fine structure. This revision would double the costs for late items that are charged at the five or ten-cents-per-day late level. This affects all books (except Express items.) Children's items, which had been charged at the rate of five cents per day would become ten cents per day; books for adults that had been at the ten cents per day level would become twenty cents per day. In addition to books, magazines, CDs and audiobooks would be affected by these changes. There would be no change to the DVD and Express fines, which are fifty cents per day. A brief discussion ensued, during which it was noted that these fines have not been raised in at least 18 years, and the higher fines would match those of most of the other libraries in the area. In addition, people still have the option of paying nothing by returning their materials on time and/or taking advantage of the various methods of renewing items: online, by telephone to automated Telecirc, or renewing them at the library in person or via phone. Joan Macfarlane made the motion to double the existing five and ten-cent-per-day overdue fines, effective June 1, 2009 and Pamela Tillinghast Dubitsky seconded it. The motion passed unanimously.

The Board considered a list of surplus equipment: five computer monitors with a value of \$0. Upon motion of Carolyn Parlato, seconded by David Birch, the motion to dispose of this equipment passed unanimously.

Board Chair Curnin reported on a meeting attended by the Board Subcommittee, the Library's architect, engineers and construction manager to consider the budget for the

Children's Room Renovation project. The estimate, even after preliminary cuts, was approximately \$600,000 over budget. Revamping the design is a necessity and there was some discussion about the best ways to accomplish this. The Board agreed that the priority is to add additional space to the Children's Room, even at the cost of diminishing, or even eliminating, the architectural statement that the lobby would convey. Board Chair Curnin will e-mail the architect with these instructions.

The Board then reconsidered the Library's budget for FY 2010. Trustee McGarr reported on a budget meeting he had attended on March 7. Although it had seemed, at last month's meeting which was attended by Village Treasurer Denis Brucciani, that the budget as presented with a 3.0% increase was acceptable, a subsequent phone call from Mr. Brucciani informed her that the Mayor has requested a 0% increase from all departments. Trustee McGarr, a member of the Village Budget Committee, reported on a budget meeting he had attended on March 7. The Board then considered a revised budget, in which the \$27,741 increase—an increase that was reduced from the initial increase of \$59,171 by lowering a number of budget lines—is offset by a projected revenue increase of \$28,300 in fines for overdue materials. The projected revenue increase is made possible by the Board's earlier action this evening to double most of the fines.

Village Trustee Kolbert expressed her appreciation for the Library's cooperation. She briefly addressed the Village's fiscal situation and noted that "everyone is even more worried about next year."

The Board adjourned to Executive Session at 8:10 to discuss personnel issues and reconvened at 8:25, at which time the Board meeting was adjourned. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board will be April 15, 2009.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Courtney
Library Director