The Larchmont Public Library Board of Trustees met on November 4, 2009 at 6:30 PM. Present were Board Chair Miriam Curnin; Trustees David Birch, Pamela Dubitsky, Maureen Le Blanc, Joan Macfarlane, John McGarr, and Carolyn Parlato; Village of Larchmont Liaison Marlene Kolbert; Friends of the Library Liaison Harriet Kline and Library Director Diane Courtney.

The Board reviewed the minutes of the Board meeting of October 14, 2009. Upon motion of Trustee Parlato seconded by Trustee Birch, the minutes were unanimously approved.

Friends’ Liaison Harriet Kline reported that the recent Friends’ program, a production of The Good Doctor by M&M Productions, drew more than 80 people and was well received. A program is planned for Sunday, November 8: author Alec Wilkinson, a writer for the New Yorker, will speak about his book The Protest Singer, which is about Pete Seeger. She noted that the Friends Board will meet next week, and will be working on membership recruitment; she asked that anyone on the Board who has names to suggest please forward the information to her. The Board promised to do so and thanked Ms. Kline for her report.

The schedules of bills dated October 28 and November 4 were reviewed and unanimously approved by the Board upon motion of Trustee Macfarlane, seconded by Trustee McGarr after discussion. The Board received the performance report dated October 28.

The Director reported that she and Board Chair Curnin met with Mayor Feld and Trustees Kolbert and MacAndrews to review the particulars of the restoration of the Village Center which the Mayor had told Mrs. Curnin in a summer meeting the Village would finance in the amount of $300,00. The Village Center would receive a new HVAC system, new entry and lobby, raised ceiling and the energy savings that would flow from the upgrades there and in the library children’s room. The Mayor and Trustees present agreed with the principle that all necessary work should be done within the one project and that even in the face of a difficult financial climate, they supported the Village Center upgrade.

Montrose Library has recently made headlines because of the legal issues surrounding the seizure of one of its computers by the police after a library staff member reported a patron looking at child pornography on it. The Board discussed the implications of the case, in which the Library demanded and received a subpoena. PLDA has asked WESTLYNX to provide written documentation detailing which information is suppressed by the security program it uses, and what data on the hard drive can or cannot be reconstructed.

The Board received details of one computer monitor and two pieces of AV equipment that are surplus to the needs of the Library and have a monetary value of $0. Upon motion of
Trustee Parlato, seconded by Trustee LeBlanc the Board unanimously approved the discard of this equipment.

The Board reviewed an overview of the finances of the Children’s Room project; current conjectures are that the project will require near-total use of the existing fund balance. The Board discussed the many ancillary expenses encountered and concluded that all are or were vital expenditures. The financial data will be re-examined after the bids are received on November 18.

The meeting adjourned into Executive Session at 7:35 PM and resumed at 8:10 PM.

The Board will meet on December 3, 2009 at 6:30 PM to award the bid for the Children’s Room Renovation Project. The next regular meeting of the Board will be 6:30 PM on December 9, 2009. In addition the Board Subcommittee set a date to meet with Library Interiors: January 22 with a snow date of January 29, 9:30 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Courtney
Library Director