The Larchmont Public Library Board of Trustees met on December 8, 2010 at 6:30 PM. Present were Board Chair Miriam Curnin; Trustees David Birch, Jennifer Jordan Conley, Pamela Dubitsky, Maureen LeBlanc, John McGarr, and Joan Macfarlane; Town Liaison Valerie O’Keeffe; Village Liaison Marlene Kolbert; Friends of the Library Liaison Harriet Kline; guests Assemblyman George Latimer, WLS Director Terry Kirchner and WLS IT department head Rob Caluori; and Library Director Diane Courtney.

The meeting commenced with a tribute to Board Chair Curnin, who is retiring on December 31st. The Board presented a proclamation to thank her for her outstanding service, as did Town Supervisor Valerie O’Keeffe and State Assemblyman George Latimer. (The Village had given her a proclamation previously.) Everyone expressed their thanks and best wishes to Board Chair Curnin who responded that working with this group has been an exciting, rewarding and harmonious experience.

The meeting was called to order at 7:20 PM. The minutes of the Board meeting of 11/10/10 were unanimously approved as amended upon motion of Joan Macfarlane, seconded by David Birch.

The schedules of bills dated 12/01/10 and 12/08/10 were unanimously approved upon motion of John McGarr, seconded by Maureen LeBlanc. The Board received the performance report dated 12/01/10.

WLS Director Terry Kirchner and head of WLS IT Rob Caluori were then introduced. The Board discussed its concerns with the new WLS Information Technology Fund Agreement and the WLS Service Level Agreement. The Board feels that both agreements lack specificity and offer no protection to the member libraries. Although the new funding model is not favorable to Larchmont, it is understood that this is a done deal. The WLS Director was asked his analysis of the new funding model’s effects on future library services in the county. He responded that he had no opinion on the subject and felt that it is PLDA’s responsibility to project any such outcomes. He also suggested that the LPL Board modify the Funding Agreement as it had suggested (adding dates, specific documents referred to, the methodology of the new model, etc) which he will be happy to sign off on. In response to some of the Board’s other questions. Dept Head Caluori said that it is his intention to keep the help desk staffed when libraries are open, although such circumstances as the recent cuts (WLS had layoffs earlier this month due to ongoing fiscal problems) may preclude this. The Board thanked Mr. Kirchner and Mr. Caluori, who then left.
Harriet Kline reported that M&M Productions play Jake’s Women on December 5 attracted 90 people. Susan Bell, local resident and author of When the Getting Was Good will speak on January 9. Other programs are being planned. The Board thanked Ms. Kline for her report.

The Director reported that Library has received the full grant amount of $175,000 obtained through Assemblywoman Nita Lowey and the first 25% of the $50,000 special legislative grant from State Senator Oppenheimer. Both grants are for the Children’s Room. In addition, Mary Ann MacLellan sent $100 in appreciation of the opportunity to display her work in the Oresman Gallery. The final payment from the Brennan estate has been received: $12,930.74.

The Board received copies of the forward of local author Marian Borden’s latest book in which she thanked, by name, each of the members of the LPL Reference Staff.

The lowest responsible bid to clean, grind/refinish and seal the terrazzo floors in the staircase and landings was Amendola for the sum of $5,400. Amendola has provided a sample of the work, which was inspected by several board members. Upon motion of Maureen LeBlanc, seconded by John McGarr, the work was awarded to Amendola.

Other work that remains includes shades for the Village Center and Activity Room. In addition, there was a brief discussion and questions about the Village Center floor. Village Liaison Kolbert said she would bring these questions to the Village Board.

The Board considered one item, with a value of $0, for discard. Upon motion of David Birch, seconded by Jennifer Conley, the Board voted unanimously to discard the item.

The Director said that the need for additional materials for the Children’s Room, which had been projected, is now a reality. She requested that the Board approve an appropriation of $20,000 from the Library’s Fund Balance for library materials, the bulk of which would be for children. Upon motion of Maureen LeBlanc, seconded by Pamela Dubitsky, the motion passed unanimously.

The Director briefly discussed the proposed 2011-2012 budget. A review of the list of major repairs to be accomplished was tabled until the January meeting due to the lateness of the hour.

The meeting adjourned at 9:25 PM. with holiday greetings to all. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board will be January 12, 2011.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Courtney
Library Director