The Larchmont Public Library Board of Trustees met on April 13, 2011 at 6:30 PM. Present were Board Chair Pamela Dubitsky, Trustees David Birch, Jennifer Jordan Conley, Lauren Gottfried, Maureen LeBlanc, Joan Macfarlane, John McGarr; as Village Liaison Jaine Elkind Eney; as Friends of the Library Liaison, Fred Baron, and Library Director Diane Courtney.

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 PM and Mr. Baron was introduced to the Board.

The minutes of the Board meeting of March 9, 2011 were unanimously approved as amended upon motion of John McGarr, seconded by Jennifer Conley.

The schedules of bills dated 4/6/1 and 4/13/11 were unanimously approved upon motion of Lauren Gottfried, seconded by David Birch. The Board received the performance report dated 4/06/11.

Fred Baron, acting as Liaison of the Friends of the Library, reported on the upcoming slate of officers, and noted that they will be officially elected at the upcoming May 3 meeting, which is also the annual meeting to which the entire Friends’ membership is invited. He also reported that the April 3 meeting, which featured Jim Millstein, was standing-room-only. There will be a program on May 1 at which author Bill German will speak about his experiences with the Rolling Stones. Board Chair Dubitsky asked whether the Village Center was proving a suitable location for the Friends’ programs, and Mr. Baron said that everyone is very pleased with the space. The Board thanked Mr. Baron for his report.

The Director reported that the boiler replacement work has been duly noticed and that the bid packages are available for pickup by contractors. Bids are due May 2, at 11 AM and all Board members are invited to the opening. After Calgi performs an initial vetting of the bids it is expected that the Board will receive the recommendation for award in time for the May Board meeting. The timetable calls for completion of work by August 26 with substantial penalties if that deadline is missed.

Titan has submitted a proposal for a change order to the brick walkway that was part of the Children’s Room renovation. Although the walkway was installed in accordance with the specifications, and Ken Sans personally oversaw the construction and vouches for the correctness of the installation, the walkway heaved badly this winter, creating serious trip hazards. The problem may be the result of our attempts to divert runoff from damming at the entry, a problem that had plagued us for years and seems to have been corrected. It is expected that the heaving will repeat itself in subsequent winters, and the best solution appears to be installation of the pavers on a concrete walkway. After a lengthy discussion, and upon motion of Joan Macfarlane, seconded by John McGarr, the Board voted to accept the proposal by Titan to remove the existing pavers and sub-base and install a new concrete sub-base and reset pavers in
stone dust over concrete sub-base for the amount of $7,952. The Board noted that the walkway should be pitched to divert runoff into the grassy areas.

Pella was here in late March to perform corrective work on windows in the Village Center, and this storm confirmed that those corrective attempts seem to have ended the leaks in those windows. The windows in the Children’s Room leaked again during the current storms, and Bill McNeiece from Titan responded immediately to the Director’s e-mail earlier in the day and came personally to conduct an inspection; this was followed up by another e-mail from him to Pella calling for a schedule to complete the corrective work.

The shades for the Children’s Activity Room windows are due to be installed next Wednesday.

The Board discussed the façade project briefly, and Board Chair Dubitsky noted that there is now an ad-hoc Board Committee, comprised of herself and Trustees Conley, Gottfried and LeBlanc. The committee will meet with engineer Kevin Miley later this month: date to be determined.

The Board had received the 2010 annual report to New York State previously. Upon motion of Jennifer Jordan Conley, seconded by Lauren Gottfried, it voted unanimously to accept the annual report and submit it to the State as presented.

The petition to change the charter was tabled pending further work to be done.

The Director reported the receipt of a grant from the Briar Foundation, thanks to the efforts of Board Chair Dubitsky. The grant is to be used to purchase e-audiobooks as part of the effort in June to roll out a substantial collection of e-books and e-audiobooks and publicize the new collections. After further discussion, a motion was made by Trustee LeBlanc, seconded by John McGarr, that these grant funds should be moved, on June 1, 2011, into the operating budget for fiscal year 2012, to permit purchasing of e-audiobooks. The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 7:58 PM. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board will be May 4, 2011.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Courtney
Library Director