

**MINUTES OF THE MEEETING OF
THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE OLD BRIDGE PUBLIC LIBRARY
September 22, 2010
OLD BRIDGE, NEW JERSEY**

Present:	Joseph Pruiti	President
	Patrick F. Gillespie	Vice President
	Jeffrey Depew	Treasurer
	Tara Flynn-Rozanski	Secretary
	Mary Chamberlain	Trustee
	Dr. Joan George	Trustee
	David Merwin	Trustee
	Barbara Cannon	Mayor's Alternate
	Mary Ann Clementi-Jones	Superintendent of School's Alternate
	Michael Lamb	Director
	Maria Nowak	Executive Assistant

Guests: Library Staff: Amy Trombetta, Dena Price, Mary Ecklund, Marcy Kagan, Gail Sankner, C.L. Quillen and Darren Miguez
Members of the Public: Evan Benjamin and associated past participants of the Library Breakdancing.

The President called the meeting to order at 7:40 p.m. and announced the meeting has been advertised and would be conducted in accordance with the Sunshine Law.

Roll Call

The Secretary called the roll.

Presentation by Architect

Mr. Pruiti stated that Robert Fania, Architect for the Laurence Harbor Project, had been asked to prepare bids for the potential repairs of the building. The bids went out but had to be rejected at tonight's meeting. Mr. Pruiti asked Mr. Fania if any changes had been made since the last time he was at a Board meeting in terms of what was needed for repairs at Laurence Harbor. Mr. Fania replied that the wood flooring in the building has become a concern. Barbara Cannon asked if Mr. Fania had an estimate for what the repairs would cost. Mr. Fania replied that he would have a better idea of costs after the new bids go out. He also stated that he could not determine accurately how long the building could be used in its present condition. He discussed the fact that the floor is not graded for library use. Additional discussion followed as to how the bidding was to be structured, and whether the price of each bidding component could be negotiated with the chosen contractor. Mr. Merwin and Mr. Fania were excused to go over the bids to make sure there were no errors before they were voted on later in the evening.

Breakdancing

Mr. Pruiti commended the staff for initiating the program, and said that he understood it has been very successful. He also commended the youth participants in the program. He stated he felt that because of some of the dangerous moves in this program it is not the kind of activity that belongs in the library. He stated the Library's attorney and insurance professionals agree that the Library is taking on unnecessary liability. Benjamin Rahivay, a professional dance instructor, discussed his program at the Rahway Library. Additional discussion followed regarding permission slips and waivers, benefits of the program, safety issues, and comparisons with similar programs in the area. Mr. Pruiti asked Darren Miguez to meet with the Township Parks and Recreation Department to see if they would be willing to take responsibility and provide space for this program, since they have insurance that is more appropriate. He also gave Darren Miguez and Marcy Kagan permission to look into other programs, such as a hip-hop club or other safe activities.

Minutes

Motion: made by Mary Ann Clementi-Jones, seconded by Mary Chamberlain, to approve the minutes from the August 11, 2010 Board meeting. All in favor

Financial

Payment of Bills

Motion: made by Jeffrey Depew, seconded by David Merwin, to approve the September bill listing as presented for \$197,623.92. All in favor

Personnel

Mr. Lamb stated that Lynn Mazur has accepted a full-time position at another library. She has asked to be added as a substitute librarian at the Old Bridge Public Library.

Motion: made by Joan George, seconded by Jeffrey Depew, to approve the resignation of Lynn Mazur effective September 15, 2010. All in favor

Motion: made by Mary Chamberlain, seconded by Mary Ann Clementi-Jones, to approve Lynn Mazur as a Substitute Librarian effective September 23, 2010 at an hourly rate of \$26.41. All in favor

Director's Report/Department Reports

The Director thanked the Youth Services Department for a successful Summer Reading Program. He then introduced Dr. Leon Shlossberg, a teacher and a member of the Board of the Music and Arts Academy in Matawan, NJ. Mr. Lamb stated he would like the Library to be a co-sponsor with the Academy at the Old Bridge Schools for a program honoring veterans. He asked for the Board's approval for money to rent a room at the school for the program.

Mr. Pruiti stated the Board needs more time to look over the information and can vote on it at the October 13, 2010 Board meeting. Dr. George stated that despite having been in Education for 45 years in Old Bridge she had never heard of the Academy.

Mary Chamberlain stated she saw nothing in the Director's report about the directive given at last month's Board meeting for the Director to do a study in regards to whether the Library needs to fill the current vacant job positions. Mr. Pruiti replied that this was a work in progress and asked Mr. Lamb to have the report at next month's Board meeting.

Old Business

Buildings and Grounds Committee

Mr. Pruiti reiterated that bids had gone out on the Laurence Harbor project, and stated that bids had also gone out on the Central Branch roofing project; he said these bids would also have to be rejected. David Merwin commented that the Library's attorney, Scott Smith, had advised him there were some fatal flaws in the bid process. Discussion followed as to the exact nature of the flaws, the timing implications in re-sending the bids, any costs involved, and assurance of the accuracy of the new bids going out. Tara Flynn-Rozanski also asked Mr. Lamb whether he had received any more public opinion regarding building a new Laurence Harbor Branch. Mr. Lamb replied he had received one more email that was not in favor of a new building. Mrs. Flynn-Rozanski and Dr. George asked for copies of the emails that Mr. Lamb has received regarding the project. Mr. Pruiti directed Mr. Lamb to send copies to each Board member. Mr. Pruiti stated that one of the ideas for future TV programming includes a show about Laurence Harbor and the condition of the building. Mr. Pruiti asked Mr. Lamb to send copies of all the emails received about a new Laurence Harbor building to all the Board members. Discussion followed regarding public opinion. Mr. Pruiti then asked the Board for four votes: two votes to reject both the Roofing Bid and the Laurence Harbor Bid, and two votes to replace both these bids with new corrected ones.

Motion: made by David Merwin, seconded by Patrick Gillespie, to reject the Central Branch Roofing Bid submitted on September 13, 2010. All in favor

Motion: made by David Merwin, seconded by Jeffrey Depew, to re-bid the roof for the main Library, as Contract #09-23-2010. He asked the bid specs be opened on October 12, 2010 at 11:00 AM. Vote: Yes: Joseph Pruiti, Patrick Gillespie, Jeffrey Depew, David Merwin, Joan George, Mary Ann Clementi-Jones, Tara Flynn-Rozanski and Barbara Cannon. Mary Chamberlain abstained.

Motion: made by David Merwin, seconded by Mary Chamberlain, to reject the Laurence Harbor Bid due to fatal flaws in the bid process. All in favor

Motion: made by David Merwin, seconded by Jeffrey Depew, to go back out to bid for the Laurence Harbor Branch on the bid specs presented by RMF Architect with the Contract #08-27-2010. He asked the bid spec be opened on October 12, 2010 at 12:00 PM on that day because there cannot be two bid openings at the same time.

Vote: Yes: Joseph Pruiti, Patrick Gillespie, Jeffrey Depew, David Merwin, Joan George, Mary Ann Clementi-Jones, Tara Flynn-Rozanski and Barbara Cannon. No: Mary Chamberlain

Friends Report

Dr. George stated there was no Friends Report for this meeting.

Television Programming

Mr. Pruiti stated he and Mr. Lamb met with Gene McLaughlin and his assistants. Mr. Lamb stated he has formed a committee of Library Staff members including Darren Miguez, C.L. Quillen, Felisha McEachern, and Maggie Awadalla. Each committee member has been asked to come up with two or three points to discuss. Mr. McLaughlin has suggested a program showing all the events and activities of the Library. Dr. George asked if a single staff member from the Library would be assigned the job of TV programming, rather than relying on a committee. Dr. George suggested that a part time position could be created at the library for a person to coordinate TV programming for the Library. Mr. Pruiti responded this could be addressed at the October Board meeting. Mr. Lamb indicated the first show will be in mid – November.

School Visit by the Youth Services Department

Mary-Ann Clementi-Jones thanked Darren Miguez and Mary Ecklund for talking with the teachers at Salk Elementary School and describing how the Old Bridge Public Library could support their efforts. Mr. Miguez and Ms. Ecklund also met with teachers at the Sandburg school to discuss issues with the Summer Reading Program. Ms. Clementi-Jones said the teachers reported this meeting as being very helpful.

Adjournment

Motion: made by Joan George, seconded by Patrick Gillespie, to adjourn the meeting at 9:10 p.m. All in favor

Respectfully submitted,

Tara Flynn-Rozanski, Secretary
Library Board of Trustees
Date Approved: October 13, 2010

Minutes transcribed from tapes on file by Kristen Reiner and Maria Nowak
Minutes reviewed by Tara Flynn-Rozanski