

**TENAFLY PUBLIC LIBRARY**  
**MINUTES OF LIBRARY BOARD MEETING**

**October 15, 2007**

The Board of Trustees of the Tenafly Public Library met on the above date at the Library for its monthly meeting.

Board Members Present: President Ellen Rochford, Vice President Kathleen Cook, Secretary/Treasurer Lynda Burke, Mrs. Mabel Allen, Mr. David DiGregorio, Dr. Everett Fergenson and Councilman Patrick Rouse.

Staff Present: Library Director Stephen Wechtler, Assistant Director Soon Juhng and Administrative Assistant Ann Marie Connolly.

Absent: Dr. Kenneth Altman, Dr. Arthur Peck.

Mrs. Rochford called the meeting to order at 8:00PM. Mr. Wechtler stated that notices of the meeting had been sent to local papers, Cablevision and were posted on the Library and Borough bulletin boards.

Board members amended and approved the minutes of the Library Board meeting of September 10, 2007. Moved by: Mrs. Rochford. Seconded by: Ms. Burke.

**Correspondence**

In a letter dated September 28, 2007, Mrs. Alice Rigney enclosed a check for "memorial" books for Bradford C. Laube and John Stuart Taxeras. Their families have been notified of her donation.

Library employee Helen Beattie and her family sent a note expressing their thanks to the Library Board for their condolences and thoughtfulness upon the death of her husband and their father Hugh Beattie.

**Director's Report**

Mr. Wechtler informed the Board that construction of the egress door from the Children's Room to the Reference area will begin soon after REMM Construction, Inc. receives approval of the new permits that were submitted to the Borough Building Department last week.

On September 17, 2007, each Board member approved a resolution via telephone concerning the construction of an egress door between the Children's Room and the Reference Room by REMM Construction Company, Inc. at a cost of \$5,135. Said resolution was introduced into the record at this meeting and again approved as follows:

**BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED THAT** the Board of Trustees of the Free Public Library of the Borough of Tenafly approves the construction of an egress door between the Children's Room and the Reference Room by REMM Construction Company, Inc. at a cost of \$5,135.

Moved by: Mrs. Rochford

Seconded by: Dr. Everett

Voting as follows:

Mrs. Allen – Aye

Dr. Fergenson - Aye

Ms. Burke – Aye

Mrs. Rochford - Aye

Mrs. Cook – Aye

Councilman Rouse - Aye

Mr. DiGregorio - Aye

On October 2, 2007, Mr. Wechtler, along with Board Members, Mrs. Rochford, Councilman Rouse, Dr. Fergenson and Dr. Peck attended the Borough Council meeting to speak about the Library's McCandless Room proposal that presents in detail the essential reasons supporting the position that many Tenafly residents would directly benefit if the Library managed the McCandless Room. This would be contingent upon the Recreation Department being able to relocate its operations and services to the vacated Police Department building.

On October 2, 2007, Mr. Wechtler received from Borough Administrator Joseph DiGiacomo and Councilman Patrick Rouse a copy of statutes from the auditor explaining the Library's authority to carry funds over from the prior year and the requirement for Board approval of a written Three

Year Capital Expense Plan for which the Library Board will replace the Library's HVAC system. A three year plan was introduced at the meeting as follows:

- 1) Replacement of the Library HVAC in its main space.
  - Installation of a new split system comprised of an exterior condensing unit and a new air handler unit in the Library mechanical room.
  - Demolition, electrical work, gas line, etc.
  - Project duration: At least four months during which the Library will be without HVAC at the main space.
- 2) Project's Approximate Cost: \$155,000.

Mr. Wechtler discussed the 1/3 Mill Law pertaining to the Library's municipal appropriations for Year 2007 and for Year 2008. The 2007 appropriation is \$1,322,936 and the 2008 appropriation will be \$1,377,691 – an increase of \$54,755. The HVAC dollars set aside from the 2007 budget (\$102,854) with the addition of the \$54,755 from the 2008 budget would allow a total of \$157,609 to be appropriated for the replacement HVAC.

After discussion the Board approved the following resolution:

**BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED THAT:** The Board of Trustees of the Free Public Library of the Borough of Tenafly authorizes that the amount of \$102,854 presently earmarked in the 2007 library appropriation in the custody of the municipal treasurer for "HVAC-Replacement" be retained in the 2008 library appropriation and dedicated to the purpose of HVAC replacement (of the present antiquated system) as part of a three year Library Board written plan whose goal is to contribute to the long-term provision of efficient and effective library services. This plan will be made available to the State Librarian upon request.

Moved by: Dr. Fergenson  
 Voting as follows:  
 Mrs. Allen - Aye  
 Ms. Burke – Abstain  
 Mrs. Cook – Aye  
 Mr. DiGregorio – Aye

Seconded by: Mrs. Cook  
  
 Dr. Fergenson - Aye  
 Mrs. Rochford - Aye  
 Councilman Rouse - Aye

#### **Other Business**

Mr. Wechtler read a passage from the newly published The Puritan Origins of American Patriotism by George McKenna of Tenafly that thanks reference librarians Agnes Kolben and Soon Juhng for "having gone out of their way to secure materials for me from all over the state."

Mr. DiGregorio informed the Board that Eric S. Maskin a 1968 graduate of Tenafly High School won the Nobel Memorial Prize in Economic Sciences. The Board discussed the prospect of the schools and the Library honoring Mr. Maskin at the Library.

Mrs. Rochford and the Board thanked Mr. DiGregorio for the excellent DVD he produced honoring Library Director Stephen Wechtler for his 25 years of service to the Library.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:01PM. Moved by Mrs. Cook. Seconded by Dr. Fergenson.

The next regular meeting of the Library Board of Trustees will be **Monday, November 12, 2007** at the Library.

APPROVED: November 12, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen R. Wechtler  
 Library Director