

## Hillsdale Free Public Library

Board of Trustees

September 10, 2012

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*In attendance were: Barbara Braun, Marie Hanlon, Warren Harris, Joanne Miano, Guy Mulé, Alan Saslowsky, Kathleen Scordato, Gary Weir, Barbara Wertheim*

*Also present: David Franz, Director of the Library*

*Excused:*

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Mr. Harris, President, called to order a meeting of the Trustees of the Free Public Library of Hillsdale, Bergen County, New Jersey. Notice of this meeting was transmitted to the newspaper of record, filed with the Borough Clerk, and posted on the Library's website and bulletin board, in accordance with the Open Public Meeting's Law.

The meeting was called to order at 7:33 PM. The Board reviewed the July minutes. Ms. Wertheim made a motion to accept the July minutes, Mr. Weir seconded. Unanimous vote of approval.

Public invited to speak: No one was present.

President's Report: Mr. Harris:

- He welcomed everyone back. Town Day is this Saturday at Stoneybrook Pool from 1 – 5 and he asked the Trustees to volunteer at the Library table. Mr. Franz will set up ahead of time. Mr. Weir suggested bringing a box of used books to sell and encourage individuals to come to the Library for additional books. Mr. Mulé and Ms. Wertheim will help with set up with the banner and a box of materials. There will be Library sign ups for new cards.
- Mr. Harris suggested also talking about the new opportunities to get eBooks. Ms. Braun asked about assistance for eBook readers. Mr. Franz and staff offer one on one instruction. Certain eBooks have a large demand and a long wait time. Patrons have a two week loan period for eBooks.
- Mr. Harris thanked Brian Wertheim, Troop 109, for his wonderful work beautifying the exterior of the Library as his Eagle Scout project. A photo was taken of Brian and the Trustees. He presented a Power Point and full explanation of what he did beautifying the patio area, and the front of the Library. He showed photographs of the before, during and after. He built planters and put in lovely bushes, the benches were fully sanded and repaired. He held a bake sale to raise money for some of the costs. Brian will provide Mr. Franz with his Power Point so that some of the photos can be included on the Library website. Within a couple of days of the staining project, a number of patrons told Mr. Franz how beautiful it looked and what a difference it made to the patio. Ms. Hanlon suggested that a sign be put out front inviting people to utilize the patio. He will consider holding a Story Time out there now that the weather had cooled. Mr. Harris suggested that a plaque be put there. Brian will display a tri-fold of his project at Town Day.
- Fundraising this Fall is a priority. There still is interest in the memorial bricks, but where to lay them is the dilemma and there needs to be a purpose for the fundraising. Mr. Franz suggested a duck race that could be held on an annual basis. Ducks sell for \$5.-10 and you race the ducks on a local pond or stream. Mr. Weir said a whole theme could be built around this, with book readings etc.

- Mr. Weir suggested that we need to publicize the availability of room namings and shelving for fundraising.
- Mr. Mulé and Ms. Hanlon spoke again about having an awning installed over the patio to increase seasonal usage.

Treasurer's Report: Mr. Mulé: The Library is fiscally sound. Mr. Mulé stated the balances in the Library accounts. There was publicity in the local newspapers about the Hillsdale Library memberships. Currently, there are 235 Woodcliff Lake memberships at a rate of \$275 per family. Last year we had 20 memberships. Word of mouth has contributed to this huge growth.

Director's Report: Mr. Franz:

- ✓ The Summer Reading programs were very successful and he extended sincerest thanks on behalf of the Library for the \$4,500. donation from *The Friends*.
- ✓ Staples Advantage Program – their State contract program will save us money.
- ✓ There are First Friday events, there were bubble wands, there will be Halloween felt/box projects and other scheduled events through December.
- ✓ Mr. Franz is soliciting used magnetic poetry kits for a project with patrons.
- ✓ Patrons will have an opportunity to win a Barnes and Nobles Nook by having a *BCCLS Passport* stamped in as many BCCLS Libraries by Sept. 19<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Braun suggested having some Passports at the Town Day Library table. It is open to anyone with a Library card.
- ✓ Mr. Franz met with Mr. Rick Spirito, the new School Superintendent, and he looks forward to their collaboration. Mr. Saslowsky will remain as the Superintendent's alternate.
- ✓ There was a theft on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor which was captured on video. The student was a frequent patron of the Library and was later apprehended by the police.
- ✓ Library personnel carefully monitor some patrons. Mr. Weir suggested some personnel training to staff in how to sensitively deal with behaviors and legal issues thereof. Mr. Franz will research and share some articles on the issue of banning patrons. Ms. Miano is going to a Trustees' meeting this Wednesday and will inquire about this subject. Mr. Harris will do further research on this issue and see if BCCLS has legal policies that we could rely on.
- ✓ Mr. Franz described the water damage caused by heavy rains on August 15<sup>th</sup>. An exterior drain was overwhelmed and water ran under the kitchen door into the meeting room. Rapid Recovery arrived the following morning and did water extraction, put down mold prevention and removed the baseboard molding. The insurance adjuster questioned whether the meeting room was constructed pre-FIRM or post-FIRM. Pre and post FIRM refers to the date when a community adopts a Flood Insurance Rate Map. There are limits to flood coverage dependent upon the size of any further improvement to a pre-FIRM structure. At present, Selective is only covering \$600 after a \$2,000 deductible. There is a continuing discussion with the insurance agency about the final figure. Mr. Weir asked if pre-emptively these repairs could circumvent future flooding with a different material for the baseboards. He also asked if Chris Statile could look at the stairs and see about the pitch. He said that there is no protection right now. Mr. Mulé asked if an engineer or hydrologist could examine the roof and drains to see if the source of the drainage problems could be located. The town has received the monies from FEMA to order and install the door dams to protect the lower level.
- Mr. Harris asked for a vote to approve monies to replace the sheetrock. Mr. Weir and Mr. Saslowsky added that they would like it to be a higher grade blue board/aqua board

sheetrock. Also they suggested bringing in the Borough Engineer to examine the roof. Mr. Mulé made a motion to approve, Mr. Weir seconded, unanimous vote of approval.

*The Friends:* Mr. Weir: Thank you to everyone's generosity! There will be a Fall Film Festival. There will be a meeting for volunteers.

The next Library Board meeting will be on October 15, 2012. Ms. Braun moved to adjourn the meeting, Mr. Mulé seconded. The meeting officially adjourned at 9:12 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
*Deirdre Danaher*  
Recording Secretary