

THE FERGUSON LIBRARY
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
December 19, 2006

Present:

Board Members: G. Caggainello, Chair; E. Abate; T. Cassone;
G. Cohen; G. Harvey; D. Monsma; J. Smith; M. Sommer; D. Williams

Citizen Advisers: S. Frederick; R. King; J. Rinaldi; J. Starr; R. Taber
H. Romanowitz

Staff: E. DiMattia; N. Bochicchio; A. Knapp

Guests: C. Guinta

Mr. Caggainello called the meeting to order and welcomed Mr. Smith to the Board of Trustees.

Minutes

A motion was made, seconded, and passed to approve the minutes of the October 17, 2006 Board of Trustees meeting.

Treasurer's Report

Mr. Williams reviewed the results of financial operations through November 30, 2006, noting variances between budgeted and actual amounts in certain categories. The audited financial statements for the year ending June 30, 2006 will be reviewed at the February meeting.

President's Report

From his October report, Mr. DiMattia commented on the Weed project punch list, the handicapped ramp project, and carpet repairs at the Harry Bennett Branch. He discussed the rollout of the pay-for-print service and the new communications supervisor's position which were included in his November report. Ms. Knapp reported on the teen tech program and the results of the 9:00 a.m. opening project.

Executive Committee

Mr. Caggainello indicated that the Executive Committee met on December 19, 2006 and reviewed matters which would be considered at this meeting.

Building Committee

Mr. Williams reported on planning for the Main Library renovation, including the development of a phasing plan, the anticipated relocation of Youth Services to the Palace Theater during the project, and the preconstruction activities of the construction manager.

Development Committee

Mr. Monsma noted that the Development Committee will be meeting prior to the Board's February session to review the role of the Committee and related policy issues

Pension Committee

Mr. Cassone reported that the Pension Committee met on December 4, 2006 with the plan's actuary and investment advisor. The actuary presented the draft valuation as of July 1, 2006 and recommended two changes in plan assumptions which would result in a 2007 – 2008 employer contribution to the plan of \$195,000. Mr. Cassone added that the investment advisor briefed the Committee on the performance of the plan's assets and recommended several changes in the portfolio's holdings.

Personnel Committee

Mr. Abate informed the Board that the Personnel Committee met on December 19, 2006, to consider the status of contract negotiations with the employee bargaining unit, and review the Library President's performance and compensation.

Friends of Ferguson Library

Mrs. Rinaldi reported that bookshop sales are up 32% so far this year. She also commented on the "Friends-to-Friends" (redonating books) "Books for Babies" programs, and the development of a strategic plan for the Friends.

Capital Project Budget

Mr. Caggainello discussed the presentation of the Library's 2007-2014 Capital Projects' Budget to the Planning Board on November 14, 2006.

Other Business

At the conclusion of the meeting, members of the Rotary Club of Stamford presented the Library with a \$50,000 contribution to equip a special literacy resource center, a new room which will be included in the renovations at Main Library.

Ernest N. Abate, Esq.
Secretary