

THE FERGUSON LIBRARY
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
September 19, 2005

Present:

Board Members: H. Romanowitz, Chair; G. Caggainello; G. Cohen;
K. Emmett; R. King; D. Monsma; W. Warrick;

Citizen Advisers: G. Harvey; T. Payne; J. Rinaldi

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

Guest: G. Cavallo; D. Russell

Dr. Romanowitz called the meeting to order.

Minutes

The minutes of the June 29, 2005 meeting were approved as submitted.

Treasurer's Report

Mr. Warrick referred to the June 30, 2005 report on financial operations, noting that, on a cash basis, a small surplus is expected. He indicated that the auditors report for the year ending June 30, 2005, will be presented at the October Board meeting.

President's Report

Mr. DiMattia, commenting on his June report, highlighted year-end statistics and the growing popularity of "WiFi" access at the Main Library and Bennett Branch. From his July report, he discussed the results of the summer Sunday project, and the upcoming introduction of a new telephone system. His August report focused on the results of the Summer Reading Club.

Mr. DiMattia then introduced Dr. Gerald Cavallo who presented the findings produced by the telephone survey of 401 Stamford households regarding library services and use.

Executive Committee

Dr. Romanowitz informed the Board that the Executive Committee met on September 19, 2005, and, in addition to reviewing the matters to be discussed at the Board of Trustees meeting, also considered a preliminary proposal by the Roxbury Neighborhood Association to establish a branch library in that neighborhood. Further discussion on this matter with City officials is needed, and a study committee may be appointed to assess the feasibility of such a project.

Pension Committee

Mr. Warrick reported that the Pension Committee met on September 14, 2005 and reviewed the investment portfolio status as of August 31, 2005. Actual returns for the calendar year are consistent with market benchmarks and on target with the estimates used in the actuarial assumptions.

Friends of Ferguson

Ms. Rinaldi discussed the success of both bookshops, and the Friends Board decision to underwrite all library programs in fiscal year 2006.

Nominating Committee

Dr. Romanowitz presented the recommendations of the Nominating Committee for Board Officers for 2005 – 2006, and the appointment of a new trustee. A motion was made, seconded and approved to accept the Committees' recommendations electing Kathryn Emmett, Esq. as Chair; Greg Caggainello as Vice-Chair; Dudley N. Williams, Jr. as Treasurer; and Thomas M. Cassone, Esq. as Secretary. George B. Harvey was elected as Trustee with a term to expire September 30, 2010.

New Business

Mr. Nichols distributed and commented on a draft of a revised meeting room policy. Following discussion concerning several additional revisions, the draft will be considered for adoption at the October Board meeting.

Dr. Romanowitz presented and discussed the 2004 – 2005 Annual Report.

Other

A motion was made, seconded and approved to adopt the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that the new officers, as well as the President of the Library, be authorized for, and on behalf of, this corporation to transact any and all business with the following banks:

Bank of America
Chase Manhattan Bank
First County Bank
People's Bank
Wachovia Bank

and that the Director of Administrative Services continues to be eligible to sign expense checks for The Ferguson Library.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Greg Caggainello
Secretary