

Metuchen Public Library
Board of Trustees Meeting
September 13, 2011

The meeting was called to order by President Marian O'Connell at 7:05pm in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act. Also present were Melody Kokola, Library Director, Bud Ackerman, Liz Waldron, Linda Koskoski and Stan Lease. The minutes from the May meeting were approved.

Linda Koskoski was nominated for Secretary and approved.

Ms. Kokola discussed the request from the Police Department's Representative, Dave Irizarry, to schedule a delayed opening of the Library on Wednesday, October 12 in order to accommodate the extra traffic flow expected for the Blue Mass. A motion was made to approve an opening time of 1:00pm on that day and all were in favor.

Ms. Kokola also discussed the closing of the Library on August 29 due to Hurricane Irene. She informed us that the library was closed because many employees could not make it to work due to excessive flooding and the fact that a State of Emergency had been declared for both the Boro of Metuchen and the State of New Jersey. All workers will be compensated in the same way they would if it were a snow day.

The financial report was reviewed and approved. Ms. Kokola explained the grant of \$518.63 that was distributed as part of an anti-trust settlement. The money has to be spent on books or durable materials that promote healthy eating.

Ms. Kokola also let the board know that Jane Greenburg remembered the Library in her will with a gift of \$25,000.

The board discussed interest rates for a CD that is coming up for re-investment. Also under consideration is an increase in gift certificates from \$5 to \$10.

The Friends Group will have their annual meeting on October 18, 2011 at 7:00pm. Members of the Board will need to be in attendance to accept their gift. Wells Fargo is presenting a \$1,000 gift to The Friends in October.

The exterior painting is scheduled to start the week of September 19th and will take about 10 days to complete.

The Children's Room Project is underway. Liz Waldron is going to schedule a meeting with the space planner to revisit the plans. The meeting is to include Ellen Greenberg and the Director and is to take place before the next meeting of the board at which time a report will be made.

Linda Koskoski posed the question of whether the board had a mission statement, goals and objectives . This led to a discussion of the Board's responsibilities. We also discussed whether or not we have enough board members and the fact that there is a state statute for how many people should be on the board. Ms. Koskoski agreed to look into that. The board also discussed setting goals for some of the projects we already have on the table such as the Children's Room.

The next meeting is scheduled for October 11, 2011. The meeting was adjourned at 8:15pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda M. Koskoski