Minutes of The Gloversville Public Library Board of Trustees Meeting  
January 25, 2011

The Gloversville Public Library Board of Trustees held a meeting on January 25, 2011 in the Reading Room at the Library, 58 E. Fulton Street, Gloversville, New York at 6:30 P.M.

The following trustees were present: David Fisher, Daniel Towne, Jr., Robin Lair, Jay Ephraim, Karen Smith, and Christine Pesses. Michael J. Frank, Financial and Recording Secretary and Barbara J. Madonna, Director of the Gloversville Public Library, also attended the meeting. Elizabeth Batchelor was excused from the meeting.

Mrs. Pesses, President of the Board, opened the meeting by leading the Trustees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mrs. Pesses asked if there was anything anyone from the Public wished to present at this time. Hearing nothing, the regular meeting was convened.

Mrs. Pesses asked the Trustees to review the minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Trustees held on December 14, 2010. Mrs. Pesses asked if there were any corrections or additions to the minutes of the meeting as presented. Hearing none, Mr. Fisher made a motion, seconded by Ms. Smith, to approve the minutes as presented. This motion was approved all voting aye.

Mr. Fisher asked Mr. Frank to review the Treasurer’s Report for the month of December and the fiscal year-to-date through December 31, 2010 with the Trustees. Mr. Frank commented that through the first six months of our Budget Year we were pretty well on track with our actual numbers to budget. Ms. Smith made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Lair, to accept the Treasurer’s Report as presented. This was approved all voting aye.

Mr. Fisher reviewed the budget for the 2011-2012 fiscal year, commenting that nothing had been changed since the original presentation to the Trustees for their review at the December 2010 meeting. Mr. Frank informed the Trustees that the Library Foundation and the Friends of the Library had both approved their requested support numbers as presented in the original budget in December. Ms. Smith made a motion, seconded by Mr. Towne, to approve the budget for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2012 as presented which showed anticipated income of $406,700 and anticipated expenses of $434,944. This was approved all voting aye. Mrs. Pesses opened the discussion as to how the Library would fund the shortfall of $28,244 that was approved in the 2011-2012 budget. After considerable discussion, Mr. Fisher made a motion, seconded by Ms. Smith, to ask the taxpayers to approve an increase in the Tax Levy of $12,000 and to fund the difference of approximately $16,000 from our cash reserve balance. This was approved all voting aye.

Ms. Madonna informed the Trustees that the deed and title transferring the Library property and Parking Lot over to the Library had not been completed yet due to restrictions that the City is asking for in the documents primarily restricting the use of the property should the Library Board decide that the building is no longer adequate for the Library’s needs. Once these issues are resolved Ms. Madonna will forward the deed and title to the property to our attorney and Mrs. Pesses for their review and any suggested revisions that they feel should be made before it is filed in the County Clerk’s office.

Ms. Madonna informed the Trustees that she still has not heard from Steve Smith’s insurance company regarding a settlement figure to repair the basement.

Mrs. Pesses informed the Trustees that the Building Committee would be meeting with Butler Rowland Mays Architects at her house this Friday to review their work to date on the Schematic design for the Library renovations.

Ms. Madonna informed the Trustees that the amount of grant money applied for from the State of New York’s Public Library Construction Grant Fund for the exterior restoration project would probably not be decided upon by the State until at least March or April.

Mr. Ephraim reviewed the trip that he and Ms. Madonna, Ms. Batchelor and Mrs. Pesses made to the Saugerties Library to see the results of the $6.9 million dollar restoration project that was coordinated by Butler Rowland Mays Architects, LLP. The group was quite pleased with the outcome that was obtained under Butler Rowland Mays guidance.
Mrs. Pesses informed the Trustees that the AD HOC Policy Committee has performed a preliminary review of the Out-of-District policy but that they would need to meet again for further discussion. Mrs. Pesses also informed the Trustees that she was planning to arrange a meeting with Senator Farley and Senator Butler to discuss our situation and the possibilities of trying to get legislation passed to allow libraries to charge a fee to out of district patrons who do not live in a service area that supports any library.

Ms. Madonna informed the Trustees that she was looking at two applications for part time clerk positions at the Library and would be interviewing one tomorrow.

Ms. Madonna informed the Trustees that she and Mr. Ephraim had attended a workshop put on by Libby Post called Going Viral. Mr. Ephraim said that he came away with the feeling that we live in a high demand society today for information and access to one another and that this will continue into the future. Ms. Madonna informed the Trustees that she has been working on two power point slides to introduce people to the Library and also to show them how to order books online from home. Ms. Madonna will be going to a follow up workshop on February 3, 2011. Ms. Madonna also said that she felt that the Library would need to discuss a policy to guide us on this if we go forward with this technology.

Ms. Madonna also informed the Trustees that the Friends Spring Newsletter would be going out in April and that if anyone had any topics they thought should be included or anything else to go in it the deadline was March 1, 2011.

Mr. Towne informed the Trustees that Ms. Prokopiak has scheduled 10 different programs starting on February 7, 2011 to run until mid May.

Ms. Madonna informed the Trustees that she had not had any response yet from the school regarding The Big Read Grant and that she is currently planning to use the Stewarts Grant and the WGY Christmas Wish Grant money for summer programming this year.

Mrs. Pesses informed the Trustees that we had received three applications for the two Board of Trustee positions that need to be filled and that the Committee was recommending Craig Clark and Dorothy La Porta be appointed to fill these positions until the next election of Trustees in May. Ms. Smith made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ephraim, to approve appointing Mr. Clark and Ms. La Porta to the Board of Trustees. This was approved all voting aye.

Ms. Madonna informed the Trustees that the election would be held on May 3, 2011 and that Trustee packets would be available by the February Board of Trustees meeting.

Mrs. Pesses informed the Trustees that she would email the Trustees comments from the Friends meeting since Mrs. Mazur was away and unable to attend this meeting.

Ms. Smith informed the Trustees that the Gloversville Library Foundation was looking for one new Trustee to replace George Morgan and that she had recommended Louis Castiglione. Mr. Wood will contact him to see if he is interested in joining the Board of Trustees of the Foundation. Mr. Finkle’s term is also up in 2011 and Mrs. Clough will contact him to see if he intends to stay on the Board.

Mrs. Pesses asked if there was any old business to discuss. Mr. Ephraim said that he would have more information on the Mural Program at the next meeting.

Mrs. Pesses asked if there was any new business to discuss. Nothing was brought up at this time.

The next regular meeting will be held on February 15, 2011 at 6:30 P.M.

Mr. Fisher made a motion, seconded by Ms. Smith to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 P.M. This was approved all voting aye.

Michael J. Frank
Recording Secretary

Karen S. Smith
Secretary