Minutes of The Gloversville Public Library Board of Trustees Meeting
September 16, 2008

The Gloversville Public Library Board of Trustees held a meeting on September 16, 2008 in the Reading Room at the Library, 58 E. Fulton Street, Gloversville, New York at 6:45 P.M.

The following trustees were present: David Heacock, Christine Pesses, David Fisher, Karen S. Smith, Elizabeth Batchelor, Robin Lair and Jay Ephraim. Michael J. Frank, Financial and Recording Secretary, Barbara J. Madonna, Director of the Gloversville Public Library, John Blackmon and Rodney Minor, reporter for the Leader-Herald newspaper, also attended the meeting.

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

Mr. Frank, a notary public, administered the Oath of Office to the newly appointed trustee, Robin Lair, who was appointed by the Trustees to fill out the remainder of the fiscal year replacing Michael Ponticello who resigned in July 2008.

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 August 19, 2008 and the Special Meeting of the Trustees held on September 4, 2008. Mrs. Pesses asked if there were any corrections or additions to the minutes of the meetings as presented. Hearing none, Mr. Heacock made a motion, seconded by Ms. Smith to approve the minutes as presented. This motion was approved all voting aye.

Mrs. Pesses opened the discussion regarding the Three Year Plan of Service. Several questions were raised and it was agreed to include an item regarding staffing to the Plan and the Plan will be voted on at the October meeting.

Ms. Madonna informed the Trustees that she had spoken with Steve Schloicka at the Gloversville Enlarged School District and he informed her that the School Board would have on their agenda to approve our tax levy check at the second meeting in October and that it would be mailed to us shortly after the approval. Ms. Madonna also informed the Trustees that she had gotten a quote from the Peerless Insurance Company for our liability and contents coverage that was substantially lower than our quote from The Hartford. Mr. Fisher made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Lair, to give this to the Finance Committee to review and to approve the change if the Finance Committee felt that the coverage equaled or exceeded our current coverage and that the Company was equally rated as far as safety and soundness. This was approved all voting aye.

Ms. Batchelor informed the Trustees that the colors for the renovation of the lobby had been selected and that the top of the dome would be a dark blue to give the appearance of looking into the sky with the rest of the dome painted a pale sky blue. The rest of the lobby will be painted with cream and ivory. Ms. Madonna informed the Trustees that the Library had sustained some window damage from the storm over the past weekend and that the City would be replacing or repairing the windows out of the Capital budget appropriation.

At this point in the meeting, 7:15 PM, Ms. Batchelor and Mr. Ephraim were excused from the meeting.

Mrs. Pesses informed the Trustees that she and Ms. Madonna would be meeting with Jim Mraz from the Fulton County Planning Department on September 18th to review the RFP for our Major Renovation Plan to be sure all things had been included.
Mrs. Pesses informed the Trustees that there was no report from the Personnel Committee this month.

Mrs. Pesses commended Ms. Madonna for her efforts on the new Library logo that had been developed with the help of Linda Hinkle. The Trustees also felt that the logo on additional pages after the cover page of reports, etc. was a nice touch.

Mr. Heacock and Mr. Frank reviewed the Treasurer’s Report for the month of August 2008. The report of income and expense for the month and year to date was reviewed with explanations for the various ups and downs to budget. Mr. Fisher made a motion, seconded by Ms. Smith, to accept the Treasurer’s Report as presented. This was approved all voting aye.

Ms. Madonna informed the trustees that the Friends had elected a new president, Virginia Mazur, and a new vice-president, Lynn Kicinski. Ms. Madonna also informed the Trustees that the Friends were going to buy a freezer for the Library and possibly a new refrigerator. The Friends have also approved spending up to $600 on new Christmas decorations. Ms. Madonna also informed the Trustees that the National Register Plaque was in and that it would be attached to the outside of the building. The Friends agreed to purchase this for the Library. The Friends will be holding their annual concert here in the lobby on September 30th at 7:15 PM. A group from Colorado named “Muses” will be performing.

Ms. Madonna also informed the Trustees that the Friends Celebration is going very well with approximately $1,200 of raffle tickets sold for the 25 baskets and that the brunch was fully booked with a waiting list.

Mr. Fisher informed the Trustees that the Foundation would be holding their Annual Meeting on October 9, 2008 at 3:30 PM at the Library.

Mrs. Pesses informed the Trustees that Ms. Madonna had signed a contract with Swann Gallery to auction the Pope Innocent XIII book for the benefit of the Library.

Mrs. Pesses informed the Trustees that the Policy Committee would be meeting on Wednesday September 17th.

Ms. Madonna informed the Trustees that the Children’s Room Report for the month of August would be sent out shortly.

Mrs. Pesses informed the Trustees that the Chamber Business After Hours held at the Library on September 11th was well attended.

Mrs. Pesses asked the Trustees for their thoughts on sending out letters to the Towns in Fulton County asking for financial support for the Library. The Trustees agreed that we should send out a specific amount letter to the Town of Mayfield since they make up approximately 8% of our circulation and to send out a generic letter to the other Towns with no specified amount since they are not considered an economic hardship to the Library as defined by the Mohawk Valley Library System Direct Access Policy. The Trustees also felt that we should not send a letter to the Town of Johnstown since some of their residents that live in the Gloversville Enlarged School District already support the Library through the tax levy and while the Town still contributes $11,000 to the Johnstown Public Library annually.

The next regular meeting will be held on October 21, 2008 at 6:30 P.M.

Mr. Heacock made a motion, seconded by Mr. Fisher to adjourn the meeting at 8:05 P.M. This was approved all voting aye.

Michael J. Frank
Recording Secretary

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Elizabeth Batchelor
Secretary