

Trustees of the Free Public Library of Lambertville
Minutes of July 8th, 2008

The regular meeting of the Trustees of the Free Public Library of Lambertville was called to order at 7:34pm by Chair Deborah Mercer. In addition to Ms. Mercer, present were Treasurer Emily Carone, Secretary Christine Miller, LPS Representative Beth Asaro, Mayor's Representative Lori Buckelew and Director Harold Dunn. Absent was Lorra Hambach.

In compliance with the Open Public Meeting Act, it was announced that this was the regularly scheduled July meeting which had been published in *The Beacon*.

Presentation of Minutes: The minutes of the June 10th meeting were reviewed and approved with amendment on a motion by Ms. Carone, seconded by Ms. Mercer with abstention from Ms. Buckelew.

Presentation of Treasurer's Report: Ms. Carone's reports were distributed, including the Cash Report as of June 30th, the Accounts Payable report for June 2008 and the Profit & Loss Report for June 2008. The Cash Report showed a balance of \$7,592.22 and \$267,732.93 in the Money Market Account for a total of \$275,325.15. On a motion by Ms. Miller, seconded by Ms. Asaro and carried by unanimous vote, the Treasurer's reports were accepted, and Ms. Carone was authorized to pay the library's customary bills.

Director's Report:

- Discussion of air conditioning issues.
- An increase of patrons has been noted since issue of the most recent Newsletter. This has been the trend upon each issue.
- Allegra Ceci was hired as a new Library employee.
- The Emotions Art show has concluded and was a success.
- The Network Plan is underway.

Children's Librarian Report:

- The summer reading program is off to a great start.
- Planning for the July 19th Block Party Bug Out is underway.
- Rush Holt will be part of Family Story Night in August.

Correspondence:

- A letter was received from Philip Faherty, Attorney representing The City of Lambertville dated July 7th, 2008 regarding an overpayment of 2006 Library funds. A discussion took place regarding the history of the issue. Past discussions on the subject were had since the February 2008 Trustee meeting regarding the over payment. Payment for 2006 Library funds was received in January 2008 for \$80,827 from the City. A second check in the amount of \$80,026 noted for 2006 Library funds was received in February 2008, creating an overpayment for 2006 Library funds.

Treasurer Carone informed the Trustees of the receipt of the overpayment check at the regularly scheduled February 2008 meeting and Ms. Monteverde was sent correspondence after the meeting that the Trustees were made aware and determining how to best handle the situation and to determine the accurate amount to be returned.

The issue was again raised at the March meeting. Mayor DelVecchio informed the Trustees he would talk to Ms. Monteverde regarding the issue to determine the accurate amount due back to the City.

No discussion of the subject took place at the April 8th meeting as Mayor DelVecchio was absent.

At the May 13th, 2008 meeting, Mayor DelVecchio did not have the exact amount due back to the City but advised the overpayment check for 2006 Library funds and 2007 Library funds due should be handled as separate transactions.

In an effort to return the requested monies, Ms. Mercer made a motion, seconded by Ms. Carone with abstention from Ms. Buckelew to issue payment for the amount of \$80,827.61 for the 2006 overpayment.

Old Business:

- Ms. Mercer asked Ms. Buckelew of the status of correspondence dated June 15, 2008 to the Mayor and City Council regarding the Trustees offer of \$120,000 towards the bond payment or further work on the Library building.

Ms. Buckelew indicated the letter was received and correspondence was sent in return inquiring of the Statue and/or Authority allowing for offer funds. This correspondence was not received at the time of the meeting.

- Ms. Buckelew informed the Trustees of a pre-construction meeting with Paul Cronce and the company awarded the bid for Library building work on July 10th. Ms. Buckelew indicated she would communicate the time of the meeting upon return to her office.

New Business:

- Discussion regarding the upcoming Referendum occurred and the Interpretive Statement. Councilman Sanders attended the discussion and asked the Trustees for some input and suggestions relative to the Interpretative Statement. Ms. Mercer indicated she would send suggested comments after the meeting. Issues discussed were:
 - Informing citizens the passing of the referendum would require joining the County system and triggering an additional tax for each household, approximately \$100.

- The Library's ability from recent legislation to return money to the taxpayer (The Moriarty Bill).
- Avoid using the worst case scenario for the funding mechanism scenario (actual 2007 percentage was 4.69%).
- The City received an invoice for the mailing of the Library newsletter. It was determined the bill was a duplicate and previously paid by the Library. Ms. Carone will provide Ms. Buckelew with documentation of such payment.
- Ms. Buckelew commented that some people from the City felt the News from the Board section of the last Newsletter was deemed as "political". Ms. Mercer noted the comments.

Adjournment:

A motion was made by Ms. Mercer, seconded by Ms. Carone to adjourn at 8:52pm.

Respectfully submitted by Christine Miller, Secretary