

Board of Trustees
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Beth Binde
Deborah Celey
Carmen Diaz
Nilda Gutierrez
Josephine Marchetta
Russell Marchetta
Karen Monus
Benito Ortiz
Cecilia Clafien, Emeritus

New Brunswick Free Public Library

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Minutes, Board of Trustees

June 19, 2013 5:00 p.m.

1. Announcement of Compliance with Open Public Meeting. Notice of the meeting was sent electronically to the Home News Tribune and was posted in the library, on the library website, and at City Hall.
2. Call to Order. Ortiz, Treasurer, presiding
3. Roll Call. Present: Binde, Celey, Diaz, J. Marchetta, Monus, Ortiz; Excused: Alfonso, Clafien, Gutierrez, R. Marchetta; Absent: Staff: Belvin, Crittenden.
4. Approval of Excused Absences. Celey (J. Marchetta), unanimous
5. Approval of Agenda. Diaz (Celey), unanimous.
6. Approval of Minutes of the April 24 and May 22 Meetings. Celey (Diaz), unanimous.
7. Approval of Bills. Binde (Diaz), unanimous.
8. Committee Reports.
 - 8.1. Finance Committee.
 - 8.1.1. Budget: The City Budget Hearing will be July 17 at 5:30 p.m. Board members were encouraged to attend.
 - 8.2. Policy Committee.
 - 8.2.1. Sponsorships. Belvin explained that the staff was being so successful in getting donations that questions had been arising about how to acknowledge the gifts so he developed a proposed policy. Motion to accept J. Marchetta (Celey), unanimous.
 - 8.2.2. Computer Use: A patron was very upset that librarians would not make an exception to the two-hour maximum use provision in the policy. Belvin had explained to him that the change was made in response to other patrons being upset that sessions were extended on an individual basis. There was discussion about the issue. Diaz asked about modifications to the current policy, Ortiz suggested exploring charges for additional time, Celey and Monus express the feeling that there would always be some patrons who felt they needed additional time regardless of the time limit.
 - 8.3. Program Committee.
 - 8.3.1. Photography: The reception will be Friday July 12 at 6:00 p.m. 63 entries have been received.
 - 8.3.2. Summer Reading: There was discussion about the use of the back driveway now that the fencing is almost complete. The kickoff will be Saturday, June 22 and the Fair will be August 17.
 - 8.4. Friend's Liaison. The Friends held their annual meeting on June 3. They had a speaker after the business meeting, Hisani P. Dubose, author of *Do I have to be a Starving Artist in the 21st Century*. Their June 5 program was Judith Krall-Russo, a certified tea specialist and food historian, speaking on "Blueberries: New Jersey's Wonder Fruit." The friend's Board now consists of Marilyn Herod, President, Jennie Fischer, Vice-Pres., George Dawson, Treasurer,

Robert Belvin, Marie Borbely, Cecilia Claflen, Ann Gordon, Joan Lyons, Harvey Schrier, Pam Sheinman, Peggy Sica, and Teresa Vivar.

9. Directors Report.

- 9.1. Citizens Campaign Annual Awards Dinner: Belvin attended the Citizens Campaign Annual Awards Dinner on April 29.
- 9.2. Fencing: The fencing is almost completed. The driveway gates are not up and Belvin is awaiting a price for an extra piece between the retaining wall and the fence along the cemetery boundary.
- 9.3. Grants: The library has applied for a Middlesex County Cultural and Heritage Commission grant for the preservation of library records some of which date back to the 1800s. In cooperation with the library, the New Brunswick Historical Society has applied for a grant to continue the digitization of the New Brunswick newspapers.
- 9.4. History: Belvin was a guest speaker at two Woodrow Wilson Fifth Grade class on June 18. One of the teachers, Kathleen Hyland, arranged for his speaking there.
- 9.5. Lead: The repainting of Technical Services using lead abatement procedures including having the carpeting shampooed is completed. Donita Jackson will be remaining in the back office and the librarians and technical service staff will be sharing the Technical Services Office.
- 9.6. New Brunswick Educational Foundation: Belvin attended the New Brunswick Educational Foundation Dinner of June 14.
- 9.7. Current Newspaper Digitization: This project seems to have lost support among the other LMx libraries.
- 9.8. NJLA Annual Conference: "Finding Your Perfect Fit," June 3 to 5, Revel, Atlantic City: I attended most but not all of these meetings since my wife was also an attendee and we combined our notes and handouts.

411 on Infographics: A current trend in data publication is the use of infographics to increase the visual impact of information. The presenters demonstrated a number of websites including infogr.am and infographicsarchive.com that have free templates for creating infographics. Infographics both engage the audience and show an adoption of new techniques. They are especially important in reaching the 20 to 30 year olds who have an entirely different view of information.

Children's Room: Darby DeCicco presented a poster session on the Math and Science Storytime series that took place during summer 2012 at the library. The story time series was a collaborative effort with a researcher at the Rutgers' National Institute for Early Education Research (NIEER). Darby is the President-Elect of the New Jersey Library Association Children's Services Section.

Laura Lippman: The mystery writer, Laura Lippman, was one of the keynote speakers. A former reporter in Baltimore, her Tess Monaghan books have won every major mystery award. She spoke about her writing process and the importance of books in whatever format the reader wants them. She had an interesting phrase, the "Big Noise in the Back Channel" which is when the obvious agenda that an author has in writing a book is not the only agenda and the author (or anyone else) has an unconscious agenda that they may not even recognize.

Lightning Round Technology Lunch: A number of presenters showed technology items such as using Raspberry Pi (a \$35 computer) as the engine for a digital sign when combined with a 32" television. Another presenter spoke of the eight things that an administrator needed to know about technology including that it is "play" that keeps people excited about a technology.

Local History Online: Staff from the Plainfield Public Library, the New Jersey Digital Highway, and the Morristown library did presentations on how they are promoting local

history and making their resources available. One example was to have a historical picture of the month on the library's website. The presentations gave Belvin two ideas for articles about how this library presents its local history information. He also is going to work with our librarians on creating links to existing items on the web such as a 1909 New Brunswick City Directory on archive.org and the Historic Building Survey data on the Library of Congress' website.

New Roles in New Media: This program explored the relationship libraries have with media such as Facebook, Twitter, and Tumblr. One aspect of this is that different media attracts different users, for example, Pinterest has a high percentage of female users while inner city and close suburban youth tend to use Twitter more.

People: Belvin had the pleasure to catch up with two former library colleagues, Dorothy Key who is shortly going to retire as the director of the Elizabeth Public Library and Monica Eppinger who is the Assistant Director there. Belvin also attended the installation luncheon where Eileen Palmer, the Director of LMxAC was installed as NJLA President. Belvin reported it was pleasant to hear Palmer use two of the library's activities (science story hours and the poetry anthology) when she was speaking about library creativity.

Programming for the 20s/30s Crowd: An area that libraries are starting to try to program for is for Young Adults (not teens) which is an area that has seen a drop-off in use. The Piscataway Public Library is putting a lot of effort into this area.

Resume Reading: Belvin volunteered at the Personnel Administration Section's Resume Review session. Because it was toward the end of the day, there were not many more resumes for review. An interesting aspect was that three of the reviewers teamed to review a resume and each had very different concerns.

Stephen Abram: The other keynoter was Stephen Abraham who is a very well known library trend watcher. A very short summary of his talk would be that change happens and is inevitable. For more see his 101 slides on his blog at stephenslighthouse.com/2013/06/05/new-jersey-library-association-conference-keynote/

Teens at the End of Time: Jonathan Mayberry, a well-known author of teen apocalyptic stories spoke about this very popular genre of teen books. He felt that teens read pre-apocalyptic, apolitical, post-apocalyptic, and dystopian novels (each is a distinct sub-genre) because they see a world that is not solving its current problems and that, among their peers, their abilities are not valued. In an apocalyptic world, a reset button has been pushed and the ability to think outside of a box, to think in a problem solving way, and to take charge because you have other skills becomes more important.

- 9.9. **Oil Spill:** The New Brunswick Fire Department, the City Engineer's Office, Building Inspections, NJ DEP, Middlesex County HazMAT, and the Coast Guard have been investigating oil leakage into the Delaware and Raritan Canal. At one point they had followed it up to the storm inlet behind the library but further investigation showed the oil came from further upstream on the other side of Livingston Avenue. Ken Krug of inspections did check and the 5,000-gallon oil tank that had been used by the library was probably removed in 1989.
- 9.10. **Orange Public Library:** While at NJLA, Belvin met the former director of the Orange Public Library. The Orange Public Library has been shut down by the Mayor due to claims of OSHA violations.
- 9.11. **Pictures:** the library has received four framed prints from Julienne Pape.
- 9.12. **Rutgers Employment Programs:** Belvin attended the Rutgers Employment Programs Information Breakfast on June 19 to find out about their Job Location and Development Program and the Federal Work Study Off-Campus Community Service Program.
- 9.13. **Security:** Belvin will be meeting with Detective Michael DeBonis and Russell Marchetta on Friday, June 21 to explore some options.

- 9.14. Shutters: The City Administrator, Thomas Loughlin, has decided to go ahead with a combined project for shutters on the Henry Guest House and Buccleuch Mansion. Belvin and Loughlin have discussed the apportionment of the cost and it will be based on the number of shutters each building requires.
 - 9.15. Smoking: Belvin is exploring how to prevent smoking on the porch of the Henry Guest House and the library.
 - 9.16. YAAR Meeting: The next Young Adult Adult Reference Librarian meeting will be at the New Brunswick Senior Center on July 15.
 - 9.17. Young Adult Room. Negotiations about pricing with WPCS for the electrical work have proved fruitless. Belvin is exploring having Tony Bryant of our staff do the work.
10. Adjournment. Celey (Monus), unanimous.

Next Meeting July 24