

**Watchung Library Advisory Board Minutes
Wednesday, January 4, 2017**

Mission Statement

The mission of the Watchung Library Advisory Board is to advise, support and promote the interests of the Watchung Borough Public Library.

A meeting of the Library Advisory Board was held this day in the Bicentennial Room of the Watchung Library, 12 Stirling Road, Watchung, NJ 07069.

Call to Order

President Amy Fiorilla opened the meeting and called the meeting to order at 3:02 PM.

In Attendance

Margaret (Peggy) Ellis
Eileen Dicken
Maureen Greenbaum
Michael Vignola, Principal Bayberry School
Stephen Black, Council Liaison
Virginia Hartmann
Annette von Brandis
Amy Fiorilla

Absent

Stephen K. Pote, Mayor

Introduction

This is a meeting of the Library Advisory Board of the Borough of Watchung. This and all other meetings are conducted in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act.

Review of Minutes of November 2, 2016 Meeting

Approval of the minutes of the previous meeting were approved with a motion by Peg Ellis, seconded by Michael Vignola, and a unanimous voice vote of members present. Amy Fiorilla will forward the November minutes to Michelle DeRocco, Watchung Clerk, for posting on the town website and will record the minutes for this meeting.

Nomination/Installation of officers

The following officers were nominated and voted unanimously into office:

Amy Fiorilla, president
Margaret (Peg) Ellis, vice president
Eileen Dicken, treasurer
Annette Von Brandis, secretary

Treasurer's Report

Colleen Mehegan provided the following via email as her final report as treasurer for the board:

The beginning balance in Oct was \$7, 013.54. Income from SCLS for October was \$265. 82. Ending balance was \$7,279.36. During November, \$100 was paid out to Aqua Services for fish maintenance and \$200 was approved and paid to Elaine Stringer for the Watchung Library Holiday party. Ending balance for November was \$6, 979.36.

The December bank statement was not yet at the library today. Highlights for December include income of \$928.53 from SCLS and a payout of \$156 to Aqua Service to catch up on our payments. As of yesterday, Kasum had still not received that check so I put a stop payment on it at the cost of \$34 and reissued a new replacement check for \$156. This will be reflected in the January statement.

Report of the Friends liason

Peggy Ellis reported that the friends have committed to replacing the popular library goldfish, one of whom died recently. She also reported that the friends provided small gifts to volunteers and staff at the holiday luncheon supported by the WLAB.

The friends continue to ask SCLS for a response to the upcoming update of the 5 year strategic plan. No response has been received from SCLS.

Report of Library Branch Manager

Elaine Stringer joined the meeting on behalf of Hannah Kerwin, who is out on medical leave.

Other Business

A draft letter supporting the NJ Library Construction Bond Act was reviewed, comments made and it was agreed the Board would send a letter to state legislators in support of this Act. Board members also discussed individually writing similar letters.

Report of Council Representative

Councilman Steve Black said that the council reorganization meeting would be held January 5, and that the assembly people representing Watchung (Munoz, Bramnick) would likely be in attendance. He would connect with them to discuss the proposed library construction bond act. Because of the council reorganization no other business would be expected to occur during that meeting, and the architect plan revisions have not yet been presented.

Adjournment

On motion and unanimous agreement, the meeting was adjourned at 3:42 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Amy Fiorilla
President
Watchung Library Advisory Board