Members Present: Jonathan L. Fischel (arrived at 8:30 p.m.), Maidel Cason, Dona Gerson, Lynette Murphy, Brooke Roothaan, Ellen L. Schrodt, Marybeth Schroeder, and Karen Terry

Members Absent: Linda DeWoskin

Staff Present: Neal Ney, Paul Gottschalk, Jan Bojda and Kate Todd

Visitors Present: Eric Penney and Julianne Scherer from the architectural firm of Nagel, Hartrey, Danker, Kagan, McKay, Penney, Architects, Ltd.

Call to Order

President Schroeder called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m. She welcomed new trustee, Lynette Murphy, and invited members of the Board to introduce themselves to one another by sharing something of their background and interest in the Library.

Approval of the Minutes

Trustee Roothaan moved and Trustee Cason seconded,

MSP – Approval of the Minutes of the Library Board meeting held on June 15, 2005, as written.

Passed unanimously on a voice vote.

Library Director’s Report

Mr. Ney referred Trustees to his report. Board members were once again invited to attend the Library’s In-Service Day if their schedules allowed.

Vice President’s Report

Mr. Gottschalk announced that the next set of financial reports would be available for the August meeting, or that they would be mailed out to Trustees during August if there was no meeting.
President’s Report

President Schroeder invited comment from Trustees. Trustee Cason reported on her attendance at the American Library Association conference in June. She attended programs on advocacy, fundraising and intellectual freedom. Programs emphasized the importance of trustee training. This was seconded by President Schroeder, who again suggested asking NSLS to offer trustee training for our Board members since so many are recent appointees. Kate Todd was asked to copy the handouts on fundraising received by Trustee Cason at ALA.

New Business

Approval of Schematic Designs and Costs

Eric Penney and Julianne Scher from NagelHartreyDankerKaganMcKayPenney presented the schematic plans and designs for the Youth Services Renovation Project. Penney reminded trustees that they are partnering on the project with Sharon and Peter Exley from Architecture is Fun, specialists in designing children’s museum spaces. Penney and Scher gave a detailed explanation of the recommended plans, and listened to comments from trustees. The architects are in the process of pricing the project, although it is expected that the project will exceed the original $1.5 million budget.

The trustees were asked to give direction to the architects concerning both plans and budget direction. Trustees appreciated the work that has been done so far, but feel it is important that they (the trustees) be responsible to Evanston taxpayers and that the project come in under $2 million. Trustee Terry moved and Trustee Roothaan seconded, that the Evanston Public Library Board of Trustees recommend to the City Manager a change in the scope of the City’s contract with the firm of Nagle, Hartray, Danker, Kagan, McKay, Penney to provide the value analysis, scope modification & re-design necessary to reconcile with the final project budget. Said work to be accomplished at a cost not to exceed $9,860.

MSP – Approval of the motion above.

Passed on a voice vote.

Mr. Penney stated that he and his firm can complete the re-design work and the costing required for a final budget estimate in time for the August Board meeting. After discussion, the trustees decided to change the date of the August Board meeting from Wednesday, August 17th to Monday, August 15th at 7:30 p.m. Trustee Roothaan moved and Trustee Gerson seconded,

MSP – Approval of changing the August Board meeting to Monday, August 15th.

Passed unanimously on a voice vote.
Mr. Ney promised to prepare a set of talking points for trustees regarding the fundamental space needs driving this project and the golden opportunity that has presented itself to create an engaging learning environment that will serve children and young people better than our current space.

The meeting adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Catherine A. Todd, Executive Secretary
Evanston Public Library