Call to Order

President Schroeder called the meeting to order at 7:38 p.m.

Approval of the Minutes

Trustee Stewart moved and Trustee Gerson seconded,

MSP – Approval of the July 18, 2007, minutes of the Library Board.

Passed unanimously on a voice vote.

Old Business

Library Director Search

Mr. Ney reported that the City has hired the search firm of Gossage Sager Associates to direct the search for a new Library director. Gossage Sager is a good choice. They are well connected in library circles. Members of the firm have met with Library staff and Board members, as well as the City Manager Julia Carroll and the City’s Search Committee, which includes Julia Carroll, Board President Marybeth Schroeder, Vice-President Christopher Stewart, Asst. City Manager Judy Aiello, and Angela McCray from Human Resources. Gossage Sager Associates are open to recommendations from the community for names of individuals to pursue in the search process.

Youth Service Renovation Project Update

Mr. Ney reported the new spaces opened to rave reviews. Superintendents Hardy Murphy of District 65 and Eric Witherspoon of District 202 attended the dedication along with many aldermen. Board members expressed appreciation to the fundraising committees and City Council members for their support. Invest is arranging for classroom visits to the new Children’s Room for grades K-2 with funding from the District 65 Foundation and Lighthouse Rotary. Again, Board members expressed their congratulations and appreciation.
Mr. Gottschalk noted that some modifications need to be made, so he will not close out the project for at least 6 months.

**Budget FY 08-09 and Financial Reports**

Mr. Ney and Mr. Gottschalk are working on the FY08-09 budget. Some full-time retirees are being replaced with part-time staff, specifically at Periodicals and at South Branch. This will make staffing an easier task in both departments, and will free up funds to add evening hours at South Branch without affecting the overall budget.

Significant contributions are still coming in for the Children’s project. Donations will be used to maintain and upgrade the spaces as needed. Board members expressed concern that there be enough staff in Children’s to handle the increased number of visitors. So far, Children’s staff members are managing well.

**Library Director’s Report**

Mr. Ney showed the Board members a new book by Sharon and Peter Exley, the architects from Architecture is Fun who designed the museum-like elements in both the Children’s Room and The Loft. The concept drawings for our project are in the book. Administrative staff members were asked to correct the dates on the Resource Sharing Report.

**New Business**

**Library Cafes**

Trustees tabled further discussion of library cafes until the new Library Director is in place.

**Reserve Fee**

Trustees tabled further discussion of the Library’s reserve fee until the new Library Director is in place.

**Authorization to Prepare an RFQ for the Purchase of a Garden Gizmo**

The Garden Gizmo is a kinetic sculpture that was included in the original plans for the Children’s Room Project. It was removed for reasons of cost during the value-engineering phase of the project. Because of the success of our fundraising it can now be restored to the project. Trustees authorized the staff to prepare an RFQ for the purchase of a “Garden Gizmo.” Trustee Murphy moved and Trustee Gerson seconded,

MSP – Authorization to Prepare an RFQ for the Purchase of a Garden Gizmo.

Passed on a voice vote.

**Approval of Library Disaster Plan**
Trustees approved the Library’s Disaster Plan, which is a requirement from the State Library for receiving our annual Per Capita Grant. Trustee Gerson moved and Trustee Roothaan seconded,

MSP – Approval of the Library’s Disaster Plan.
Passed unanimously on a voice vote.

Approval of a Per Capita Grant Application

Trustees approved the application to the Illinois State Library for a Per Capita Grant. Trustee Roothaan moved and Trustee Terry seconded,

MSP – Approval of the Per Capita Grant Application.
Passed unanimously on a voice vote.

Approval of Art Purchase

Trustees tabled until the October meeting the purchase of an illustration by Children’s book illustrator Yumi Heo.

Approval of Change in the Conference Room Policy

Trustees approved a change in the Library’s policy concerning conference rooms. Identification will no longer be required to book a room. Trustee Gerson moved and Trustee Murphy seconded,

MSP – Approval of the change in Conference Room Policy.
Passed unanimously on a voice vote.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Catherine A. Todd, Executive Secretary
Evanston Public Library