Members Present:  Dona Gerson, Brooke Roothaan, Marybeth Schroeder, Ellen L. Schrodt, Christopher Stewart, Susan Stone, and Karen Terry

Members Absent: Maidel Cason, and Lynette Murphy

Staff Present:  Mary Johns, Library Director
              Paul Gottschalk, Administrative Services Manager
              Kate Todd, Administrative Coordinator

Call to Order

President Schroeder called the meeting to order at 7:40 p.m.

Approval of the Minutes

Trustee Gerson moved and Trustee Stewart seconded,

MSP – Approval of the January 16, 2008, minutes of the Library Board.

Passed unanimously on a voice vote.

President’s Report

Board President Marybeth Schroeder welcomed new Library Director Mary Johns. Board members were asked to introduce themselves by giving their length of service on the Board and information about their connection to the Evanston Public Library and libraries in general. President Schroeder announced that she is resigning from the Library Board for personal reasons effective April 1, 2008. The Nominating Committee reported on new officers later in the meeting.

Old Business

Budget FY08-09

Mr. Gottschalk reported that as of the last budget meeting, the City Council had taken the Library branches off the table for consideration. However, the proposed budget raises the fines for overdue adult Library materials to 25¢ per day and reduces the Library’s book budget by $50,000. The next budget meetings are scheduled for Saturday, February 23, and Monday, February 25, 2008. The Council is still trying to find $900,000 in new revenue and/or budget cuts.
**Financial Reports**

Mr. Gottschalk reported the Library’s Endowment Fund should have extra income to spend for the next fiscal year, since Endowment income will no longer be going into the capital program. Library staff members have been asked to recommend proposals to allocate Endowment and Fund for Excellence income for the next fiscal year.

**Interim Library Director’s Report**

Trustees reviewed Mr. Gottschalk’s written report. Mr. Gottschalk reported that the Brian Pinkney painting is framed and placed near the Art Garden in Children’s. All Library staff will attend Diversity Training by the end of this year. Mary Johns and Paul will be attending the NSLS Awards ceremony and dinner next month. Paul has been nominated for an award.

**New Business**

**Consideration of Change to the Loft Room Use Policy**

Trustees approved changes to the Loft room use policy as outlined in Mr. Gottschalk’s February 15, 2008 memo. The new rules change the limits on who can use the Loft from and age-based to a grade-based standard. The new policy permits young people in grades 6 through 12 to use the Loft (instead of ages 12 to 18 years). Also, at the discretion of staff, up to six people may use the Loft Study Rooms. Board members asked to be kept informed about who is using the Loft and of any problematic behavior. Trustee Gerson moved, and Trustee Terry seconded,

MSP – Approval of the changes to the Loft Use Policy.

Passed on a voice vote.

**Consideration of Increase in Overdue Fines on Adult Materials**

Trustees approved an increase in adult overdue fines from 15¢ to 25¢ per day effective April 1, which is included in the City Manager’s FY08-09 budget. Trustees asked Library staff to be sure signs about the new fees are displayed at checkout stations. Overdue fines on Children’s and Young Adult materials remain 15¢ per day. Trustee Stone moved, and Trustee Terry seconded,

MSP – Approval of the increase in overdue fines on adult materials to 25¢ per day.

Passed unanimously on a voice vote.

**Resolutions Authorizing Signatures on Library Accounts**

Trustees approved adding Library Director Mary Johns to the Library’s financial accounts. Trustee Stewart moved, and Trustee Terry seconded,
MSP – Approval of new signatures on Library accounts.

Passed unanimously on a voice vote.

**Nominating Committee Report**

The Nominating Committee proposed a new slate of officers of the Library Board to take office immediately. They are:
- President – Christopher Stewart,
- Vice-President – Karen Terry,
- Secretary – Lynette Murphy.

Dona Gerson moved to suspend the rules to elect the new slate. Trustee Roothaan seconded,

MSP – Approval of suspension of Bylaws to elect the new slate.

Passed unanimously on a voice vote.

Trustee Roothaan moved and Trustee Schrodt seconded,

MSP – Approval of the new slate of Library Board Officers effective April 1, 2008.

Passed unanimously on a voice vote.

**Appreciation for Paul Gottschalk**

Trustee Gerson read a memo of appreciation for Paul Gottschalk from the Library Board in thanks and recognition for his invaluable service over the past year, in particular for his leadership as Interim Library Director and for his oversight of the recent building project.

**Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

_________________________________
Catherine A. Todd, Administrative Coordinator
Evanston Public Library