Evanston Public Library  
Board of Trustees  
Wednesday, August 20, 2008  
7:30 p.m.  
Library Board Room

Members Present: Maidel Cason, Lynette Murphy, Susan Newman, Brooke Roothaan, Ellen Schrodt, Christopher Stewart, and Karen Terry

Members Absent: Dona Gerson, Susan Stone

Staff Present: Mary Johns, Library Director, Paul Gottschalk, Administrative Services

Guest Present: Joey Rodger, Gossage Sager Associates

Call to Order

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

Approval of the Minutes

Trustee Terry moved and Trustee Newman seconded,

MSP – Approval of the June 18, 2008, minutes of the Library Board.

Passed unanimously on a voice vote.

Information

President Stewart announced that this would be Maidel Cason’s last Board meeting and he expressed the Board’s deep appreciation for her service to the Library. A new Board member should be seated in October.

Old Business

Planning Process Update

Joey Rodger discussed the preliminary results from the 945 patrons who completed the user survey. The intent of the survey was to find out what people do when they are at the Library and what value the Library provides to the community. Mary Johns stated that the Library expects to find three to five areas of service to emphasize as a result of the survey. A final report is expected in four to six weeks.
Art Committee Update

On behalf of the Art Selection Committee, Brooke Roothaan recommended approval of the purchase of “Too Many Tamales” by Ed Martinez for $2,000 from the art acquisition fund.

Trustee Terry moved and Trustee Newman seconded,

MSP – Approval of the purchase of “Too Many Tamales”, a painting by Ed Martinez for $2,000 from the art acquisition fund.

Passed unanimously on a voice vote.

Library Friends Update

Karen Terry reported that the Library Friends do not have a President and the number of active members is diminishing. They are planning Family Night and have begun to book the performers.

Review of Food and Beverage Policy

Mary Johns reported that lounge chairs have been placed in the area designated for food and beverage consumption (in the lobby by the Most Wanted titles). The proposed policy change will be brought to the Board for approval at the September meeting.

Financial Reports

Paul Gottschalk reviewed the financial report through June. There were no exceptional items.

Library Director’s Report

Mary Johns reported that the Library will be installing a public computer reservation and print management system. This system will make it easier for patrons to sign up for internet use and it will reduce the staff time it takes to manage internet sign-up. Staff is participating in “Evanston Library Learns”, a web-based program to have staff become competent in Web 2.0 technologies and services. To replace Kate Todd, the position of Marketing Coordinator has been posted and applications are coming in.

New Business

Fund for Excellence Campaign
Christopher Stewart described the annual Fund for Excellence Campaign and asked for volunteers to co-chair the campaign. Lynette Murphy and Karen Terry graciously volunteered to lead the campaign.

**Branch Renovation Update**

Paul Gottschalk reported that six proposals had been received from architects for the branch library renovation project. The proposals are under review and interviews with the firms have been scheduled. A recommendation will be brought to the Library Board on September 17th and to the City Council on September 22nd.

**Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 9 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul Gottschalk, Administrative Services Manager
Evanston Public Library