Members Present: Dona Gerson, Diane Allen-Jacobi, Susan Newman, Brooke Roothaan, Christopher Stewart, Susan Stone and Karen Terry

Members Absent: Gail Bush, Lynette Murphy

Staff Present: Mary Johns, Library Director; Connie Heneghan, Branch Manager; Paul Gottschalk, Administrative Services Manager.

Call to Order
Christopher Stewart called the meeting to order at 7:41 p.m.

Approval of the Minutes
Trustee Roothaan moved and Trustee Terry seconded,

MSP – Approval of the April 15, 2009 minutes of the Library Board.

Passed by acclamation.

Old Business

Branch Renovation Update
Mary Johns presented her thoughts and plans on four major areas of library service – staffing, technology, collections and facilities. The Library will be facing significant budget pressures given the City’s economic circumstances. All vacant positions are being evaluated to determine whether they are needed or if there is a better way of providing service. Library customers require an up-to-date technology infrastructure, including RFID (radio frequency identification) for materials handling and patron self-checkout stations.

Given the uncertain capital project funding situation, there are several options for the future of the branch renovation project to consider. With the existing appropriated funds, South Branch could be renovated as planned and North Branch could be renovated when funds become available. Alternatively, branch resources could be reallocated to meet library service needs in more neighborhoods throughout Evanston. The Library Board will prepare a recommendation that will be forwarded to the City Manager and City Council.

Following discussion, Christopher Stewart suggested that the Board hold a special meeting devoted solely to making a recommendation to the City Manager and City Council on the future of the branch renovation project. The Board will hold a special meeting on June 12th at 5:30 pm for the purpose of making a decision on the renovation of the branch libraries.
Nominating Committee Report
Susan Stone presented the Nominating Committee’s report of the slate of Board officers. Nominees are: Karen Terry, President; Dona Gerson, Vice President; Susan Stone, Secretary.

Trustee Roothaan moved and Trustee Allen-Jacobi seconded,

MSP – Approval of the slate of Library Board officers as presented.

Passed by unanimously on a voice vote.

President’s Report
Christopher Stewart thanked Board members for submitting their evaluations of the Library Director.

Financial Reports
The April financial reports were accepted as presented.

Library Director’s Report
Mary Johns informed the Board that the rental of the storytelling room for children’s parties will not be going forward at this time.

Staff Development Day focused on working with difficult patrons and included an excellent presentation by members of the Evanston Police Department.

The Hirshfield Poetry Award program was very successful.

New Business
Christopher Stewart asked for Board volunteers to lead the 2009 Fund for Excellence Campaign. Dona Gerson, Susan Newman and Diane Allen-Jacobi volunteered.

Christopher Stewart reported that the Library has received notification of a bequest from the estate of Vivian E. Conner.

Trustee Allen-Jacobi moved and Trustee Gerson seconded,

MSP – It is resolved that the Evanston Public Library gratefully accepts a gift from the Vivian E. Conner Trust, Ross I. Conner Family Trust and the Vivian E. Conner IRA. It is further resolved that Mary M. Johns, the Library Director, is authorized on behalf of the Library to: 1) accept payment, 2) execute receipts and other documents, and 3) receive notices, make and communicate decisions as necessary to facilitate administration of the Trusts.

Passed by unanimously on a voice vote.

Executive Session
Trustee Gerson moved and Trustee Roothaan seconded,

MSP – Adjourn into Executive Session to discuss personnel matters.
Passed by unanimously on a voice vote.

The Board went into Executive Session at 9:18 pm.

**Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 9:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

[Signature]

Paul Gottschalk, Administrative Services Manager
Evanston Public Library