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Cecilia Clafien, Emeritus

# New Brunswick Free Public Library

60 Livingston Avenue, New Brunswick NJ 08901

732-745-5271 Fax 732-846-0226

## Notes, Board of Trustees

April 23, 2014 5:00 p.m.

1. Roll Call. Present: Binde, Diaz, Ortiz; Staff: Belvin, Crittenden.
2. A quorum not being present, no actions were taken.
3. Committee Reports.
  - 3.1. Finance Committee. The budget hearing was on Friday, April 4.
  - 3.2. Friend's Liaison: Teresa Vivar has resigned from the Friend's Executive Board because of other activities that demand her time. Previously, Harvey Schrier had had to resign because of ill health.
  - 3.3. Bylaws: A revision of the bylaws has been prepared and distributed. It will be voted on at the next meeting.
4. Directors Report.
  - 4.1. Judy Freeman: Ms. Freeman donated another ten cartons of new books.
  - 4.2. Mae Silver: Mrs. Silver has written a book entitled Stars on the Diamond: Early Women's Softball in New Jersey. She has suggested that she would be willing donate copies of the book to the Friends of the Library for a fund-raiser.
  - 4.3. NJ350: The Middlesex County Cultural and Heritage Commission has awarded the library a grant of \$500 to help celebrate NJ350. The funds will support Dr. Ian Burrow of Hunter Research Inc. speaking to the audience about archaeology excavation in New Brunswick; the Raritan River Keepers speaking about the history of ecology of the Raritan River during the summer; Rutgers University student Dan Flotard mounting a Civil War exhibit of swords, canteens, and cannon balls. In addition, the library is collecting historical photographs from local residents to do an exhibit and a photo book in hopes of preserving residents' memories of rapid changes in New Brunswick between the 1920s to 1980s and starting in May, librarians, Margaret Gurowitz, Chief Historian at Johnson & Johnson; Michael Tublin, Director of International Program for the City of New Brunswick, and Tab Chukunta, Director of Outreach Services at the St. Peter's University Hospital will do monthly displays about New Brunswick.
  - 4.4. Paint Our Town: The Community Arts Council's Paint Our Town event was held on April 5. The mural on the library's garage was painted by Jon Horowitz and was completed over a couple of days. The public canvases were not as successful since the child friendly paint proved incompatible with the plastic canvas on a very windy cool day.
  - 4.5. Photography: The Photography Reception was on April 24.
  - 4.6. Poetry: The library has, with the Raritan Valley Federation of Libraries, published its 2nd annual National Poetry Month Celebration Anthology featuring the poetry works of local New Jersey and New York-based poets. The poets will be reading their chosen work at the Library's Poetry Celebration on Monday, April 28, at 7:00 p.m. in the library's Carl T. Valenti Community Room.
  - 4.7. Public Policy Forum: Belvin and Binde (electronically) attended the NJLA Public Policy Forum on April 1. Topics covered included Advocacy Week, A967 a \$3,000,000 increase in Library Per Capita State Aid, A1396 a bill for reader Privacy, Voluntary Contributions for Library Support (A1314), and an attempt at a forced merger at the Riverdale Public Library,

- 4.8. Rutgers Community Health Foundation Grant: The library has responded to a Rutgers Community Health Foundation Request for Proposal for a summer program. The emphasis of the response was to get more young people who sign up for the Summer Reading Club to actually participate and to get those who participate to read more books.
- 4.9. YAAR Meeting: The April meeting will cover topics that the librarians learned about at the Technology Speed Dating including Screencasting, Instagram, Discovery Tools, Managing your Social Media Presence, Tech Petting Zoo, and Virtual Reference.

**Next Meeting May 28**