



**Oak Park Library Board
October 20, 2009**

Betty K. Johnson, Observer

The regular meeting of the Board of Library Trustees was held at the Dole Branch Library with six trustees, the Executive Director, Assistant Director and two staff persons present.

The Financial Report was reviewed and disbursements approved. The Village of Oak Park owes the Library about \$190,000.

The 2010 proposed budget was discussed. The Board recognizes that they have not invested enough in the building and technology throughout the system over the past six years. They are proposing a 6% tax increase in the 2010 budget. The use of computers increases steadily and patrons are asking for more computers. Under consideration is an increase in late fees and the fee for using some library spaces. The proposed budget was approved. The Board also approved the request for increased taxes to help ease the budget situation.

Kay Speyer reported on the development of an Employee Rewards and Recognition Program.. A team from all areas of the library has been working on a plan which will address both immediate recognition of acts of kindness and support as well as a year-end celebration of ongoing efforts. Plans for the year-end recognition include acknowledgement of exemplary service, recognizing the "Rookie of the Year," and an Innovation Award. A recognition meeting will be held at the Chaney Mansion.

The Board voted to approve the closing of all three Library branches for an Institute Day, December 11, 2009.

A first draft of goals for 2010 has been distributed.

Director Brennan reported that the Board has been looking at ways to increase funding from a variety of foundations, perhaps including matching funds.

Assistant Director Madigan worked with staff to promote the appearance of Ralph Nader at the main library. He also welcomed an overflow crowd who came to meet author Theresa Amato on September 28. Mr. Madigan also attended the Quarterly SWAN Administrators meeting at which the topic of system delivery was discussed at length.

The meeting adjourned at 9:45.

(www.opl.org/about/board.html)