600 Bohland Avenue Bellwood, Illinois 60104 (708) 547-7393 Fax (708) 547-9352 www.bellwoodlibrary.org

# Board Meeting Minutes

December 8, 2010

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Bellwood Public Library was called to order at 7:25 p.m. by Rev. Dr. Saffo in the Large Meeting Room.

**Attendance:** Present were, Mr. Mallet, Mrs. Smith, Rev. Dr. Saffo, Ms. Thompson and Pastor Horton. Miss Archibald was absent. Also in attendance were Mrs. Wooten, Director and Chris Randall, Business Manager.

Miss Archibald arrived at 7:26 pm

A motion was made by Mrs. Smith, seconded by Ms. Thompson, to amend the consent agenda to interview Katie Ross for the vacant board position. A roll call vote was taken.

AYES: 6: Miss Archibald, Rev. Dr. Saffo, Mrs. Smith, Ms. Thompson, Pastor Horton and Mr. Mallett

NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 0

The motion carried by unanimous vote.

A motion was made by Pastor Horton, seconded by Mrs. Smith, to accept Ms. Ross as the newly appointed trustee. A roll call vote was taken.

AYES: 6: Miss Archibald, Rev. Dr. Saffo, Mrs. Smith, Ms. Thompson, Pastor Horton and Mr. Mallett

NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 0

The motion carried by unanimous vote.

**Finance Committee Report:** Miss Archibald reported that additional funds may be available for deposit in this account after payments from the latest property tax revenues are received and calculated. Operating funds must remain liquid and all public funds must be without risk of fees or fines. The Village of Bellwood has sent replacement tax checks for \$17,295.44 and for

\$5,238.18. State grant funds have not yet been received that are due for the new carpeting and technology equipment.

A motion was made by Pastor Horton, seconded by Mrs. Smith, to approve the 2011 Bellwood Public Library Budget as presented. A roll call vote was taken.

AYES: 6: Miss Archibald, Rev. Dr. Saffo, Mrs. Smith, Ms. Thompson, Pastor Horton and Mr. Mallett

NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 0

The motion carried by unanimous vote.

A. Report of Bills #685, #685-A, #685-B: The following reports of bills were submitted, copies of which are included as part of these minutes:

#685 in the amount of \$ 47,879.88 #685-A in the amount of \$ 47,271.38 #685-B in the amount of \$ 257.46

TOTAL: \$ 95,408.72

A motion was made by Pastor Horton, seconded by Mrs. Smith, to accept bill #'s 685, 685-A, 685-B, that they be submitted for payment, and that the Library Board Treasurer and Library Board Secretary be authorized to issue checks in payment of these bills. A roll call vote was taken.

AYES: 6: Miss Archibald, Rev. Dr. Saffo, Mrs. Smith, Ms. Thompson, Pastor Horton and Mr. Mallett

NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 0

The motion carried by unanimous vote.

**B.** Transfer of Funds: IPTIP transfer of \$372,000 was made on November 17, 2010, \$250,000 of which was deposited in a money market account at Bellwood's Urban Partnership Bank to earn higher interest.

C. Reinvestments: None

### **Other Committee Reports:**

**A.** Administration Committee: Pastor Horton reported that efforts continue to find a more affordable solution to the increased cost of the employee health insurance. The Village of Bellwood has referred a consultant to assist in obtaining quotes from various insurance companies. This is very helpful as there are a multitude of variables to be considered. Once

finalized, these proposals will be brought to the Library Board.

**B.** Buildings and Grounds Committee: Pastor Horton reported that the library was approached by a contractor who suggested that the roof had wind damage and could be replaced by funds provided by the insurance company.

After a thorough inspection, the insurance representative determined that the condition was mainly due to wear and tear and was not covered under our policy.

C. Public Relations and Legislation: Mrs. Smith reported that the library is experiencing a huge number of requests for faxing to toll free numbers. It has been our policy to send these documents without charge. Considering that a significant amount of staff time is involved, as well as machine maintenance, it is recommended that these faxes incur the same charges as all others which is \$2 for the first page and \$1 per page thereafter. There have been a number of incidents where faxes of more than 10 pages have been sent to toll free numbers with no compensation. This constitutes an actual loss for the library.

Board action is requested.

The Winter newsletter has been recently distributed throughout the village and a copy is available on the library's website.

A motion was made by Mrs. Smith, seconded by Miss Archibald, to charge the normal faxing fee of \$2 for the first page and \$1 for each additional page for 1 800 numbers. A roll call vote was taken.

AYES: 6: Miss Archibald, Rev. Dr. Saffo, Mrs. Smith, Ms. Thompson, Pastor Horton and Mr. Mallett

NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 0

The motion carried by unanimous vote.

- **D. Planning and Development Committee:** Rev. Dr. Saffo reported that the library is experiencing some problems with many of the public computers mainly due to the aging of this equipment and overuse. The state funds for the technology grant are very much needed so that new computers can be purchased for the Youth Services Department as well as for Adult use. In the meantime, the technicians are keeping the computers functional as well as can be expected. It has been recommended that the Board contact State representatives concerning this matter of funds due from the State.
- **E. Metropolitan Library System:** Mrs. Smith reported that MLS has finally received all funds due and will be able to provide services until June 30, 2011. In the meantime, merger plans continue making it difficult for many decisions to be made. One major issue is what to do with the building in Burr Ridge. It is very expensive to maintain and renting another facility would be more cost effective. However, until merger decisions are made, it is not possible to finalize any plans for the building. The circulation system (SWAN) will continue as an independent entity but is also seeking ways to cut costs including requesting quotes from various bibliographic vendors. OCLC has been the standard for many years but now other suppliers are offering the same service at significant savings. The delivery service is expected to be outsourced to a

delivery company as this is the normal practice at libraries across the nation. Even this cannot be finalized until the merger is complete. Meanwhile, MLS and other systems attempt to operate on a temporary basis with the least impact on their patrons.

New Business: None

Public Comment: None

Announcements: None

The next monthly Board Meeting of the Bellwood Public Library Board will be held on Wednesday, January 12, 2011 at 7:00 pm followed by the Annual Meeting.

**Adjournment:** A motion was made by Miss Archibald, seconded by Mrs. Smith, to adjourn the meeting. Voice vote: all ayes.

Rev. Dr. Saffo adjourned the meeting at 8:39 p.m.

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# Board Meeting Minutes

November 6, 2010

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Bellwood Public Library was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by Rev. Dr. Saffo in the Large Meeting Room.

**Attendance:** Present were, Miss Archibald, Mr. Mallet, Mrs. Smith, Rev. Dr. Saffo. Ms. Thompson. Elder Hayes and Pastor Horton, were absent. Also in attendance were Mrs. Wooten, Director and Chris Randall, Business Manager.

A motion was made by Miss Archibald, seconded by Mrs. Smith, to amend the consent agenda to as allow Pete Bato from Urban Partnership Bank to discuss the Money Market account. A roll call vote was taken.

AYES: 4: Miss Archibald, Rev. Dr. Saffo, Mrs. Smith and Mr. Mallett

NAYS: 0

ABSENT: 3: Pastor Horton, Ms. Thompson and Elder Hayes

The motion carried by unanimous vote.

A motion was made by Miss Archibald, seconded by Mrs. Smith, to transfer \$250,000 into the new money market account. A roll call vote was taken.

AYES: 4: Miss Archibald, Rev. Dr. Saffo, Mrs. Smith and Mr. Mallett

NAYS: 0

ABSENT: 3: Pastor Horton, Ms. Thompson and Elder Hayes

The motion carried by unanimous vote.

**Finance Committee Report:** Miss Archibald reported an IPTIP transfer of \$150,000 was made on October 12, 2010 primarily to support 2 payrolls as well as operating invoices. Efforts continue to discover any available opportunities to earn more interest on available library funds. A draft of the 2011 budget is being formulated. This is one of the most difficult budgets because of the many uncertainties regarding the amount of property tax revenues that will be collected for the library. With the many Bellwood foreclosure properties and possible funding reductions due

to property tax appeals, many careful decisions must be made. Wherever possible, budget lines have been reduced or kept the same. It is recommended that the staff increases amount to no more than 2% for this upcoming year. In the near future, it is possible that an additional increase or other benefit may be available. The huge increase in the library's share of employee health insurance is being reviewed by the insurer at our request through Mayor Pasquale. State grant funds due for new carpet and asbestos removal have not yet been received.

A. Report of Bills #684, #684-A, #684-B: The following reports of bills were submitted, copies of which are included as part of these minutes:

#684 in the amount of \$49,941.54 #684-A in the amount of \$70,983.85 #684-B in the amount of \$404.76

TOTAL: \$121,330.15

A motion was made by Mrs. Smith, seconded by Mr. Mallett, to accept bill #'s 684, 684-A, 684-B, that they be submitted for payment, and that the Library Board Treasurer and Library Board Secretary be authorized to issue checks in payment of these bills. A roll call vote was taken.

AYES: 4: Miss Archibald, Rev. Dr. Saffo, Mrs. Smith and Mr. Mallett

NAYS: 0

ABSENT: 3: Pastor Horton, Ms. Thompson and Elder Hayes

The motion carried by unanimous vote.

A motion was made by Miss Archibald, seconded by Mrs. Smith, not to give a salary increase to the employees for the fiscal year 2011 due to the current economy. They will still receive a shopping day off and the dinners given annually. A roll call vote was taken.

AYES: 4: Miss Archibald, Rev. Dr. Saffo, Mrs. Smith and Mr. Mallett

NAYS: 0

ABSENT: 3: Pastor Horton, Ms. Thompson and Elder Hayes

The motion carried by unanimous vote.

B. Transfer of Funds: An IPTIP transfer of \$150,000 was made on October 12, 2010.

C. Reinvestments: None

### **Other Committee Reports:**

**A.** Administration Committee: Mr.Mallett reported that even though no formal letter of resignation has been received from library trustee Harris Hayes, he has been absent from meetings for more than a year. The Board Bylaws indicated that this constituted a vacancy which can now be filled by appointing a qualified and interested candidate to complete his term.

Three trustees are due for reelection in 2011 and must file paperwork with the Village by December 20, 2010 to be on the ballot in April.

**B. Buildings and Grounds Committee:** Mr. Mallett reported the HVAC system has experienced some problem changing over from air conditioning to heating. Heat Engineering has been working to solve the problem with custodian Kelvin Johnson, and assistance from ABC Controls who installed a computer controlled system which doesn't seem to always work well with the other components. Quotes have been solicited to replace gutters around the building. However, one contractor that we have previously worked with suggested that only repairs are needed and not full replacement. We will continue to evaluate the situation before making a decision. Leaking gutters have been creating a walking hazard near both entrances during the ice and snow season.

One attempt has been made by a carpet cleaning contractor to remove the discoloration from the carpet in the large meeting room. The process made a sizeable improvement but did not clean it to our satisfaction. Another attempt will be made soon. If again the process is unsatisfactory, the contractor has agreed not to be paid. However, the library should provide some compensation even it is only for his supplies since there is some improvement.

C. Public Relations and Legislation: Mrs. Smith reported that the Bellwood Library is one of the collection sites for the PLCCA food pantry. Only non-perishables and can goods with current dates will be accepted.

Library staff, including the director, continues to participate in local organizations and events such as Lions club and its candy sale, Bellwood Chamber of Commerce, West Suburban Senior Services, Hispanic Heritage Celebration, etc.

The Winter newsletter is being compiled showcasing many new and continuing library programs.

- **D. Planning and Development Committee:** Rev. Dr. Saffo the IT staff has indicated that an overhaul of the library's website is due since it was created more than 10 years ago. Updates on programs and other current information can be readily created but other technical changes are well overdue. This process will probably be outsourced when a determination is made as to the specifics that will be necessary. The library recently joined Facebook to broaden outreach to the community.
- **E. Metropolitan Library System:** Mrs. Smith reported MLS along with other Illinois library systems have received some of its funding from the State. The share for MLS was \$558,610.46 but is not the full amount owed. These revenues cover FY2010 (July 09 June 10) and will keep MLS operational until Jan. or Feb. 2011, possibly longer if additional payments are received. It will primarily support delivery and SWAN at its current level.

New Business: None

Public Comment: None

Announcements: None

The next monthly Board Meeting of the Bellwood Public Library Board will be held on Wednesday, December 8, 2010 at 7:00 p.m.

**Adjournment:** A motion was made by Miss Archibald, seconded by Mrs. Smith, to adjourn the meeting. Voice vote: all ayes.

Rev. Dr. Saffo adjourned the meeting at \$:11 p.m.

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Board Meeting Minutes

October 6, 2010

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Bellwood Public Library was called to order at 7:11 p.m. by Rev. Dr. Saffo in the Small Meeting Room.

**Attendance:** Present were, Miss Archibald, Mr. Mallet, Mrs. Smith, Rev. Dr. Saffo. Ms. Thompson. Elder Hayes and Pastor Horton, were absent. Also in attendance were Mrs. Wooten, Director and Chris Randall, Business Manager.

A motion was made by Miss Archibald, seconded by Mrs. Smith, to accept the consent agenda to as printed. A roll call vote was taken.

AYES: 4: Miss Archibald, Rev. Dr. Saffo, Mrs. Smith and Mr. Mallett

NAYS: 0

ABSENT: 3: Pastor Horton, Ms. Thompson and Elder Hayes

The motion carried by unanimous vote.

Finance Committee Report: Miss Archibald reported that the per capita grant is being prepared for submission by October 15, 2010. Still no response on construction grant funds due for the carpet installation and asbestos removal. ShoreBank is now known as the Urban Partnership Bank as a result of a federal takeover in August 2010. It is therefore requesting an update of signatures from library Board members for all accounts with this bank. Library attorney, Donald Renner, informed us that the Property Tax Appeal Board (PTAB) is considering appeal requests from three Bellwood business properties. This is an annual occurrence but is the first time that some further action may be necessary. The Village attorney

occurrence but is the first time that some further action may be necessary. The Village attorney was contacted for information on how they will handle their appeals. He stated that no further action will be taken on their appeals. It is necessary for the library Board to make a decision on whether the library will do likewise. A deadline of October 15 has been set to respond.

Ms. Thompson arrived at 7:21 pm.

A. Report of Bills #682, #682-A, #682-B#683, #683-A, #683-B: The following reports of bills were submitted, copies of which are included as part of these minutes:

#682 in the amount of	\$ 67,900.86
#682-A in the amount of	\$ 45,402.74
#682-B in the amount of	\$ 109.44
#683 in the amount of	\$ 21,996.86
#683-A in the amount of	\$ 47,515.71
#683-B in the amount of	\$ 432.57

TOTAL: \$183,358.18

A motion was made by Miss Archibald, seconded by Mr. Mallett, to accept bill #'s 682, 682-A, 682-B, 683,683-A, 683-B that they be submitted for payment, and that the Library Board Treasurer and Library Board Secretary be authorized to issue checks in payment of these bills. A roll call vote was taken.

AYES: 5: Miss Archibald, Ms. Thompson, Rev. Dr. Saffo, Mrs. Smith and Mr. Mallett

NAYS: 0

ABSENT: 2: Pastor Horton and Elder Hayes

The motion carried by unanimous vote.

B. Transfer of Funds: An IPTIP transfer of \$100,000 was made on September 16, 2010.

C. Reinvestments: None

#### **Other Committee Reports:**

**A.** Administration Committee: Rev. Dr. Saffo reported that the 'Put Illinois to Work' program has been extended to November 30, 2010.

The Library plans to keep only one of the employees sent to us at the beginning of the program. The other will be dismissed for lack of suitable duties to match his skills. The library employee that was placed on 90-day probation for severe attendance issues has been terminated for violation of that probation.

Muhammad Hussaini has been hired as of August 11 as one of 2 part time computer technicians. Twana Jenkins and Ellen Norton have been added to the Youth Services' staff as assistants.

A motion was made by Miss Archibald, seconded by Mrs. Smith, to approve an addendum to the Personnel Policy stating that any employee who terminates employment either voluntary or involuntary will have any outstanding obligations to the library deducted from their last check. It is also advisable to add the right of the library administration to perform <u>random</u> drug tests for existing employees. A roll call vote was taken.

AYES: 5: Miss Archibald, Ms. Thompson, Rev. Dr. Saffo, Mrs. Smith and Mr. Mallett

NAYS: 0

ABSENT: 2: Pastor Horton and Elder Hayes

The motion carried by unanimous vote.

**B.** Buildings and Grounds Committee: Rev. Dr. Saffo reported that the horrendous flood of late July, 2010 left the library with soiled carpet in the Arnie Bryant Conference Room. Custodian

Kelvin Johnson, rented carpet cleaning equipment in an attempt to remove the soil but was unsuccessful. A quote has been obtained from a carpet cleaning company recommended by the new carpet installer of \$450 with a 99% guarantee that the soil will be removed. In addition, a quote of \$3974.80 was received to replace carpet in the entire room if the soil cannot be removed. This is under consideration only because the Cook County division of the Illinois Emergency Management Agency has solicited information about damages and cost with the possibility of funding a portion of these costs. Quotes have also been received to replace damaged gutters on the building to prevent drainage and ice freezing on walkways near the building doorways. This has been a real hazard in recent years with staff working constantly applying salt to remove ice on walkways. This project is expected to be completed before the first snow fall.

- C. Public Relations and Legislation: Mrs. Smith reported that the latest library newsletter will be reviewed and discussed in order to keep Board members abreast of current library programming and services. Board members are encouraged to participate in programs whenever possible and invite others from the community to do the same. The newsletter is still being mailed from the Bellwood post office after we were able to work out cost savings by having the newsletters distributed flat instead of folded.
- **D. Planning and Development Committee:** Ms. Thompson reported that some of the requirements for the 2011 per capita grant are to review the library needs in the areas of the facility, personnel, technology, programming, etc. These are listings from the table of contents of the 2009 edition of "Serving our Public". From that list plans are to: upgrade phone system, replace outdated public computers, replace security gates, purchase battery backup system for sump pumps, and provide adequate staffing as needed and as the budget allows. It will also be necessary to regularly have staff review emergency procedures and other important issues including all library policies.
- **E. Metropolitan Library System:** Mrs. Smith reported that the next meeting of the merger design team is scheduled for Oct. 4, 2010. The primary goal of this meeting is to approve hiring a consultant to assist with the details of how the merger should take place. The state has recommended only 2 systems remain, north and south. All agree that delivery and SWAN should be salvaged but details and logistics are yet to be determined. There has been no timeline set as to when a decision should be expected. Whenever plans are finalized all existing intergovernmental agreements within each system will expire and new ones will be created.

New Business: None

Public Comment: None

Announcements: None

The next monthly Board Meeting of the Bellwood Public Library Board will be held on Wednesday,

November 10, 2010 at 7:00 p.m.

**Adjournment:** A motion was made by Miss Archibald, seconded by Ms. Thompson, to adjourn the meeting. Voice vote: all ayes.

Ms. Thompson adjourned the meeting at 8:10 p.m.

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# Board Meeting Minutes

August 11, 2010

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Bellwood Public Library was called to order at 7:20 p.m. by Karen Thompson in the Arnie Bryant Conference Room.

Attendance: Present were, Miss Archibald, Mr. Mallet, Pastor Horton and Ms. Thompson. Elder Hayes, Mrs. Smith, and Rev. Dr. Saffo were absent. Also in attendance were Mrs. Wooten, Director and Chris Randall, Business Manager.

A motion was made by Miss Archibald, seconded by Ms. Thompson, to accept the consent agenda to as printed. A roll call vote was taken.

AYES: 4: Miss Archibald, Ms. Thompson, Pastor Horton and Mr. Mallett

NAYS: 0

ABSENT: 3: Mrs. Smith, Rev. Dr. Saffo and Elder Hayes

The motion carried by unanimous vote.

Finance Committee Report: Miss Archibald reported that no grant funding for the new carpeting and new technology has been received. However, the Secretary of State's office has made the upcoming 2011 per capita applications available online. It must be noted that many libraries have not received their per capita funding for last year. Bellwood library will complete the application as usual. The future of ShoreBank appears to be grim as recent reports indicate that the bank will soon be taken over by the federal government. All banking by Bellwood library is conducted at ShoreBank which includes a certificate of deposit, 2 checking accounts and a safe deposit box. It must be noted that in spite of the many failed banks nationwide, no capital has been lost by depositors due to the FDIC insurance.

A. Report of Bills #681, #681-A, #681-B: The following reports of bills were submitted, copies of which are included as part of these minutes:

#681 in the amount of \$48,611.40 #681-A in the amount of \$47,825.12 #681-B in the amount of \$140.74

TOTAL:

\$ 96,577.26

A motion was made by Ms. Thompson, seconded by Mr. Mallett, to accept bill #'s 681, 681-A, 681-B, that they be submitted for payment, and that the Library Board Treasurer and Library Board Secretary be authorized to issue checks in payment of these bills. A roll call vote was taken.

AYES: 4: Miss Archibald, Ms. Thompson, Pastor Horton and Mr. Mallett

NAYS: 0

ABSENT: 3: Mrs. Smith, Rev. Dr. Saffo and Elder Hayes

The motion carried by unanimous vote.

B. Transfer of Funds: An IPTIP transfer of \$100,000 was made on July 13, 2010.

C. Reinvestments: None

### **Other Committee Reports:**

A. Administration Committee: Pastor Horton reported that efforts continue to fill several library vacancies. The most urgent are an assistant in the Youth Services Dept. and the IT assistant for the computer department on the lower level. Circulation also will be filling a vacancy very soon. Interviews of some promising candidates have taken place for these positions. One employee has been terminated for attendance violations and another is on a 3-day suspension which will be followed by 90 days probation.

- B. Buildings and Grounds Committee: Pastor Horton reported that the library received minimum damage from the severe flooding in the area on Saturday July 24, 2010. A small amount of water was discovered in the elevator area toward the large meeting room but no loss of property occurred. The chain link fence that encloses the air conditioner compressors has been painted. Other similar projects are planned to improve the building's appearance while we have employees from the "Put Illinois to Work" program. The thermostat has been adjusted to the maximum of 75 degrees to conserve energy. So far there is some level of comfort in all areas of the library. Occasionally a fan might be used temporarily in some instances.
- C. Public Relations and Legislation: Mr. Mallett reported that the fall newsletter is nearly ready for distribution. The plan is to have the mailing handled by a different post office than Bellwood, possibly Melrose Park, as other area libraries have done. This is caused by a serious discrepancy in rates charged for these mailings. Librarian Elizabeth Neil continues to write excellent press releases about library programs and services, many of which are published in the local newspapers, "The West Proviso Journal" and the "Proviso Herald."

  To promote good public relations with patrons, no fines were charged for items due during the time the library was closed for carpet installation or for flooding. Items returned damaged from the flood will only be charged half price.

A motion was made by Miss Archibald, seconded by Mr. Mallett, that a board meeting not be held for the month of September. A roll call vote was taken.

AYES: 4: Miss Archibald, Ms. Thompson, Pastor Horton and Mr. Mallett

NAYS: 0

ABSENT: 3: Mrs. Smith, Rev. Dr. Saffo and Elder Hayes

The motion carried by unanimous vote.

- **D. Planning and Development Committee:** Ms. Thompson reported that the 'Friends' Giant Book sale will take place on August 28 on the lawn as well as in the large meeting room. The sale will be widely publicized in the hope that it will be very successful. There is a large amount of items to be sold including many VHS movies. A multitude of donations have come in from the community. The 'Friends' have promised to provide the library with computer furniture for the new computers to be purchased with grant funds from the State.
- **E. Metropolitan Library System:** Mr. Mallett reported that the future of library systems statewide is very grim since most of the state funding is nonexistent. The urgency is to salvage the delivery and computerized circulation network in order to minimize the impact of service to patrons. A consultant may be hired to assist with system mergers if that is still considered possible. The building that houses MLS in Burr Ridge would be ideal to continue as a location for SWAN and delivery. The building will be offered for sale if these services are relocated. These and other ideas are being discussed thoroughly in light of the mandatory changes caused by the severe reduction in state funding to systems.

The all day administrators' meeting at MLS has been rescheduled for Sept. 8, 2010 at which time more discussion and information about these issues will take place.

New Business: None

Public Comment: None

Announcements: None

The next monthly Board Meeting of the Bellwood Public Library Board will be held on Wednesday, October 13, 2010 at 7:00 p.m.

**Adjournment:** A motion was made by Miss Archibald, seconded by Mr. Mallett, to adjourn the meeting. Voice vote: all ayes.

Ms. Thompson adjourned the meeting at 8:16 p.m.