

Tinton Falls Public Library

664 Tinton Avenue, Tinton Falls, NJ 07724
Phone: 732-542-3110
Fax: 732-542-6755

Director: Rosemary Tunnicliffe
Board President: Linda Zucaro

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Dear Friends

Those of you who have been keeping an eye on our display in the Library know that a great deal has been happening since last September.

In November of 2007, the architect chosen to do the feasibility study started his work. He was asked to start with a brief study of the old Police Building and make a recommendation as to whether it could be incorporated into the new library building.

His assessment of the building was that, using 5 basic criteria, the building was definitely not suitable for this purpose (you can see the report on file at the library).

Between December and February 2008, Dennis met with a total of 9 “focus groups” of library users to obtain input on the form the new library should take, both inside and outside. The majority seemed to want a cozy library, operating as a community center (as it already does) with room for community activities. It should be as environmentally friendly as possible within the budget decided on.

In March a “design retreat” was held from 10 – 5 on a Saturday, attended by representatives of the library board, staff, borough administration and council, and members of the public. At this meeting, the ideas gathered at the focus groups were brought together to form a basic design concept. For the library to be an ideal size for the population expected in 20 years time, the calculated size would be 27,000sq.ft. This would include community meeting rooms and adequate work space for staff.

On **April 1**, an interim report was given to the Borough Council explaining the results of the design retreat and gathering comments from the Council.

In the next two months drawings will be generated as architectural sketches and these – together with cost estimates – will be the final report to the Borough Council under the feasibility study.

We hope that as many people as possible will attend the meeting (date still to be announced) and help the Council with its decision regarding the future of the library.