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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh Board Meets

(PITTSBURGH, PA – May 10, 2010) As Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh's Board of Trustees met on May 10, the focus was on community engagement and the critical need to identify long-term sustainable funding for the Library system. The meeting included the election of new trustees and officers.

Community Conversation

During the meeting, the Board of Trustees welcomed Nicole Swerhun, a skilled facilitator with extensive experience in bringing decision makers together with the people they serve, to discuss the Library's upcoming Community Conversation process. Ms. Swerhun will facilitate a three-part process designed to ensure that library users and advocates, library board members, library staff and other stakeholders engage in a meaningful conversation about the Library and its future, developing a plan together that will carry the organization forward. The first in a series of community workshops will be held May 15, 16 and 17, with additional workshops to take place in July and September. The Board's External Affairs committee will oversee the process and synthesize the results with other board committees.

Public-Private Task Force

Chaired by the Honorable Frank J. Lucchino, the 10-member Task Force on Sustainable Library Funding has met twice to gather information about Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh's financial outlook, the Library's ability to obtain stable and adequate funding and the future of American libraries. They will use the information gathered as they move forward in exploring alternative funding models and sources of funding to sustain the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh system.

New Trustees

Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh's Board of Trustees voted on the appointment of two new members, the re-election of five term trustees and the election of four officers.

New members Robert Dellinger the CFO of PPG Industries, and Terri Wolfe, owner and principal of Wolfe Design each will serve a three-year term on the Board. Current Board members Henry S. Beukema III, partner, Guyasuta Investment Advisors; Kristen McMahon, library volunteer; Nikki Monroe-Hines, Director of Operations, Schenley Heights Community Development Program; and Pat Siger, Senior Vice President and Chief Development Officer, Greater Pittsburgh YMCA, each were re-elected to a three-year term.

The following officers each were elected to serve a two-year term: Lou Testoni, First Vice Chair; Carol Robinson, Second Vice Chair; Henry S. Beukema III, Treasurer; and Susan Jackson, Secretary.

Finances

The Library's Finance Committee reviewed the Special Audit released by RAD and discussed preliminary factors that will affect the Library's future budget projections. The Library will submit its 2011 budget to RAD in July.

Capital Projects

The Board's agenda also included an update on the Library's tenth capital project to be completed under its \$55 million capital campaign. Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh-East Liberty will open with a Community Celebration on August 27 and 28. The Board's Facilities Committee also discussed the need for a long-range facilities plan, based on the capital and operating dollars that are available to the Library system in the future.

Resolutions

In other news, the Board of Trustees voted to approve a resolution to ratify a Diversity Plan for the Library. The plan meets the requirements set by the Allegheny Regional Asset District (RAD) and will be submitted with the Library's 2011 funding application. Resolutions to refinance the Library's capital bond and to approve the Library's annual audit report from Maher Duessel were also passed.

Community members interested in learning more about Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh and how they can help protect Pittsburgh's library system may view information online at www.carnegielibrary.org.

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About Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh

Engaging our Community in Literacy and Learning

Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh contributes to the educational attainment, economic development, and cultural enrichment of the region. Through critical services such as early learning programs for children, job search assistance and computer and Internet access, the Library fosters lifelong learning and is a renowned leader among the nation's libraries. With more than 2 million visitors and 3.5 million items borrowed each year, Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh is the region's most visited asset and one of the largest public libraries in Pennsylvania. Established in 1895 by philanthropist Andrew Carnegie as a public trust to be funded by the community, the Library derives approximately 90% of its annual operating budget from public or government sources, including the Allegheny County Regional Asset District (RAD), the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the City of Pittsburgh.