

house to the WHDC for conversion to affordable housing. In July 2005 the DPW employee who had been renting the house moved out and the WHDC is now in the process of planning for affordable housing on the site.

- Developers who are considering developments with affordable housing components meet with the directors from time to time to review projects.
- The WHDC has been offered several houses slated for demolition for removal to another site. The directors have considered each of these offers but, to date, issues of timing, cost, or location have prevented acceptance of any of these homes.
- Representatives of the WHDC met with the developers of some of the larger projects in Town (such Linden Square and Wellesley Inn). The WHDC's role has been to help develop, in conjunction with the Planning Board, the implementation of the affordable housing responsibilities of the developers under the Town's Inclusionary Zoning Bylaw.

The members of the WHDC Board of Directors are dedicated to providing affordable housing opportunities for people with modest economic means and believe that our community is enriched by a diverse population. Meeting both the need and the State mandate for affordable housing is both challenging and rewarding. We welcome partnerships with professional, civic, religious, and social groups. To discuss affordable housing options for Wellesley, please feel free to contact us.

Respectfully Submitted,

**The Directors of the Wellesley Housing Development Corporation**

Thomas G. Schnorr, Chairman  
Morris W. Kellogg  
Robert E. Kenney  
Dona M. Kemp  
Katherine K. Macdonald

**REPORT OF THE BOARD OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES**

The Wellesley Free Library Board of Trustees is pleased to report on the success of the new main library as a community center and vital resource for the town of Wellesley. Statistics confirm increases in circulation. Increased attendance at programs indicates interest of the community on a wide-range and variety of topics. Use of the building for serious study, in particular by the school-age population, supports the goals that Trustees wished to achieve with the completion of the new Main Library.

**Budget**

As with all town departments, the Trustees wrestled with the need to provide services in an unfavorable economic climate. Trustees remain committed to the full support of the main library while balancing this with the interest for continued support of the two branches. Trustees recognize the role the Branches play in the delivery of service to the elderly and younger populations in town. Trustees faced the difficult decision this year of placing the branches in an override vote that ultimately failed. Concerned citizens quickly raised money to reinstate branch service for one year and Trustees gratefully accepted this gift.

In FY '04, in response to the economic challenges of that fiscal year, Trustees raised the fine schedule at the library for overdue materials. We are pleased to report that in FY '05, library revenue to the town for overdue fines was \$92,906.

### **Facilities**

The Library completed the second full year of operations in the new building in June, 2005. The building continues to draw people of all ages who enjoy the ambience of the various attractive and comfortable reading and working areas and views.

Trustees remain committed to keeping all library facilities in excellent condition. This year, a part-time custodian was added to the budget to insure that with a larger and more complex main library, they would be able to meet this goal.

### **Plans and Policies**

The Library continues to plan and evaluate services, establish policies as necessary and to explore efficiencies and cost saving measures.

Library Administration produced three major reports this year. These were a Materials Collection Plan that studied current purchasing requirements, circulation statistics and made recommendations for the future development of the library collection; a report on the Branch Libraries; and a new five-year Long Range Plan FY 2006 through FY 2010.

Trustees continue to monitor and develop policies as required and notable policies created this year are Communication of Confidential Information; Staff Computer and Email Policy; and a Customer Service Policy.

Trustees have also been working on an organizational development initiative where all existing job descriptions in the library are being reviewed and rewritten to reflect accuracy and to insure that they are current.

The Library Administration has worked with staff members to introduce several cost efficiencies as well as improvements in service.

### **Staffing**

There is little turnover in the staffing at the Wellesley Free Library. A Professional Day held in December, 2004 for all staff focused on customer service needs of the library and the organization. Administration and Supervisors also worked together throughout the year to build a strong team with a goal of examining procedures to facilitate improved customer service.

Trustees also negotiated a new three year contract with the Wellesley Free Library Staff Association.

### **Statistics of Use**

The circulation statistics reported below only describe one piece of the picture in measuring library use. Other statistics of interest for FY '05 are:

- 376,392 visits to the Main Library
- 30,870 reference transactions
- 10,048 children in attendance at 284 children's programs

- 3,146 people in attendance at 164 general interest programs
- 82,206 visits to the library website [www.wellesleyfreelibrary.org](http://www.wellesleyfreelibrary.org)

The following chart describes total collection holdings followed by circulation information for fiscal years '04 and '05 in all locations and by books vs. non-print materials.

	BOOK HOLDINGS		NON-PRINT HOLDINGS		CIRCULATION	
	FY '04	FY '05	FY '04	FY '05	FY '04	FY '05
<b>MAIN LIBRARY</b>	220,684	232,165	18,552	19,389	497,079	527,433
<b>HILLS BRANCH</b>	11,037	10,916	596	724	14,102	13,867
<b>FELLS BRANCH</b>	8,322	7,665	230	391	14,065	16,102
<b>TOTALS</b>	240,043	250,746	19,378	20,504	525,246	557,402

Respectfully Submitted,  
 Marla Robinson  
 Chair, Board of Library Trustees

**REPORT OF THE NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION**  
**July 1, 2004 – June 30, 2005**

*It is the mission of the Natural Resources Commission to provide stewardship, education and advocacy of the Town of Wellesley's park, conservation, recreation and open space system so that the full value of the Town's natural assets can be passed on to future generations.*

The Commission's goals are to provide the Town with the highest quality of environmental leadership, to establish sound environmental policy, to improve environmental planning and management, and to protect and enhance the Town's natural and recreational resources. To accomplish these goals, the NRC is charged with the statutory responsibilities of *Park Commissions, Conservation Commissions, Tree Wardens, Shade Tree and Pest Control Officers, and Town Forest Committees* under Massachusetts General Laws Chapters 40, 45, 87, 131 and 132. The Commission appoints the Wetlands Protection Committee, the Trails Committee, and oversees special committees such as the Pesticide Awareness Committee. A representative from the Commission serves on the Community Preservation Committee ("CPC"), the Morses Pond Ad Hoc Committee, the Playing Fields Task Force, the Integrated Pest Management Advisory Committee, the 27 Washington Street Study Committee, the Post