

Portsmouth Public Library Trustees Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, October 27, 2004

PRESENT: Amy Brnger, Ed DelValle, Dana Levenson, Theresa Garabedian, Rai Bowles, Sue McCann, Mary Ann List
Excused: Suzanne Foley, Phyllis Eldridge, Maria Sillari, Barbara Ward

- I. CALL TO ORDER: Vice-Chair Dana Levenson called the meeting to order at 7:05PM
- II. SECRETARY'S REPORT: Ed DelValle made a motion to accept the meeting minutes. Amy Brnger seconded. Minutes approved.
- III. FINANCIAL REPORT: Sue McCann reviewed the library trust fund account balances and there were no questions. Mary Ann List reviewed the gross budget with the trustees. We are 25% of the way through our fiscal year and our expenditures are at 26.8%. Mary Ann List advised the group that due to the high oil prices expected this winter we may see higher operating costs than in previous years. As discussed at the September meeting, Dana Levenson approached the Bank of New Hampshire about the possibility of them managing our trust fund account. Our current trust fund account balances are quite small. However, Bank of New Hampshire may decide to work with us once we have established what our goals are for these accounts. We need to determine what level of risk we are willing to take in an effort to grow these balances. Bowles moved to approve gross budget and Amy Brnger seconded.
- IV. DIRECTOR'S REPORT – Mary Ann List brought the trustees up to date with the status of the HDC review of the new library plans. The new library building committee will report back to the HDC at their November 10, 2004 meeting.

Thanks to the efforts of city and library staff, parts of the library now have wireless internet access available. Telecommunications for this service is courtesy of Comcast. This wireless connection has been available for 3 weeks and things are running smoothly.

The Seacoast History program series programs have been very well attended and are being funded by grants. Two grants were received from the NH Humanities Council and the Friends of the Library funded two programs. Sherry Evans, Supervisor of Public Services, arranged the series.

Current children's programs are seeing overflow crowds.

- V. ASSISTANT DIRECTOR'S REPORT – Sue McCann is spearheading the upgrade of the library system. The next step is to have PCs installed where terminals now exist. The training on the new system will take place in January.
- VI. OLD BUSINESS – The fees committee will have a recommendation at the November meeting.
- VII. ADJOURNMENT – Meeting was adjourned at 8:10.

The next meeting will be Wednesday, November 17, 2004 at 7PM