

Portsmouth Library Board of Trustees  
Meeting Minutes: July 15, 2009

Present: Elly Abelson, Carol Lincoln, Grace Lessner, Jody Record, Betsy Shultis, Megan Tehan, Ann Walker, Mary Ann List, Steve Butzel.

Excused: John O'Leary,

Minutes from June 17, 2009 meeting approved.

Trustees

Amy Brnger has formally submitted her letter of resignation to the mayor.

Financial Report

The municipal budget has been adopted.

Portsmouth Library earned \$65,000 in fines, fees, out-of-town registrations. Does not go through municipal budget.

Working gross budget FY10:

Lost money in materials budget; MAL would like to see put back in.

\$5,000 for digital archival

\$47,537.69 from Trustee Account

Proposed gross budget: \$1,614,702.63

**Motion: approve budget; Lincoln; second, Walker**

Director's Report

The Library portion of the City's annual report has been submitted. It reflects a 9.3 percent increase in circulation. Most areas experienced growth far beyond goals.

The summer has been one of the busiest in the children's room. There has also been a higher number of books on hold.

In the 2009 Hennen's American Public Library Rating index, Portsmouth Public Library received the highest number of points (827) of any library in New Hampshire, giving PPL a 97<sup>th</sup> percentile rating nationwide for libraries serving populations between 10,000 and 25,000. Abelson will write a letter to the editor of the Portsmouth Herald to let the public know.

Izzy's celebrated its 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary by helping to clean up the library grounds.

Two part-time library assistant positions available: reference and youth services. Both will be advertised in-house first.

#### Technical report

Upgrades to Encore will be coming, including links for things like book reviews.

Photos of North End houses are being digitalized for the House Histories Project, a pilot online exhibit.

#### Trustee activity

Abelson and O'Leary spoke with the mayor re: library parking and the building committee that will be created for the Portsmouth Middle School.

The City Council will hold a public hearing on the issue in August. Trustees should attend.

#### New Business

#### Old Business

#### Meeting adjourned

7:40 p.m. [**motion: Lincoln; second, Tehan**]

The next meeting of the board of trustees will be Sept. 16, at 6:30 p.m., in the MacLeod Reading Room.