

Portsmouth Library Board of Trustees
Minutes
Wednesday, May 19, 2010, 6:30 p.m., MacLeod Board Room

Present: Carol Chellman, Grace Lessner, Carol Lincoln, Jody Record, Betsy Shultis
Excused: Elly Abelson, John O'Leary, Megan Tehan
Staff: Mary Ann List, Steve Butzel

Secretary's Report

The minutes from the April 21, 2010 meeting were approved.

Financial Report

1. The Director reviewed the income/expenditure report through April 2010 and stated we're on budget.
2. The Library Trustee Funds report was reviewed. The Treasurer will be asked to check on the interest rate being earned in several of the accounts.

Director's Report

1. Reviewed FY11 Budget information. Steve Butzel will represent the library at the next budget work session May 24th 6:30 p.m. The Director doesn't expect a lot of questions about our budget. We have strong support from councilors for municipal budget and revenues look better than expected. The projected date for budget approval is June 7th at the regular City Council meeting.
2. HAPLR for 2010. The Director reviewed the annual Hennen's American Library Ratings report, which looks at library performance and efficiency. Portsmouth is the highest scoring library in NH, ranking 97.8% overall.
3. The Mahoney grant summer program is July 12th. We have \$2,000 to spend on the program. Jay Cook and Bill Schontz will charge \$1,000 to do a full-day seminar combo of music, storytelling, and story writing. They perform for kids, and help the kids perform. About 50 kids can participate in the program.
4. Technology Report. Steve Butzel showed the beta of the library's new mobile-friendly website and asked Board members with mobile devices to test its features. The Board was impressed. The Library's Twitter account for disseminating news about library programs and products remains active.

The waiting list for portable reading devices is in the double-digits, and it was noted that interest in the devices goes across the demographic range.

5. Staff Activities. The New England Library Association (NELA) Information Technology Section spring program is "The Invisible Book: Libraries, People and e-Books." Five staff members will attend the June meeting in Portland, ME.
6. Trustees Activities / Reports / Discussion
 - a. Applicants for Library Trustee. Five applications were submitted and are under review.
 - b. The Trustees agree to buy a book for the children's room to celebrate the birth of Treasurer Megan Tehan's son. The children's librarian will select the book, and the parents will be notified of this gift.
 - c. Our NHLTA memberships were renewed through 6/30/11. Carol Lincoln reported on her attendance at the spring NH Library Trustees Association conference.

New Business

- a. The landscape around the library will be cleaned up.

Old Business

- a. Outside masonry has been repaired.

Acceptance of Gifts and Grants – none.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Next Regular Full Board Meeting: **June 16, 2010**

Respectfully Submitted,

Grace Lessner
Secretary