

Portsmouth Library Board of Trustees
Minutes
Wednesday, July 21, 2010, 6:30 p.m., MacLeod Board Room

Present: Elly Abelson, Carol Chellman, Grace Lessner, Carol Lincoln, John O’Leary, Jody Record, Betsy Shultis

Excused: Megan Tehan

Staff: Mary Ann List, Steve Butzel

Secretary’s Report. The minutes from the June 16, 2010 meeting were approved.

Review of design development of the Portsmouth Middle School building project.

1. The board met at 5:30 prior to its scheduled meeting to hear a presentation by Lisa DeStefano, AIA, review the site and discuss the design and its possible impact on customer and staff parking.

Financial Report

1. The Director reviewed the income/expenditure report through June 2010 and stated we’re on budget. The final FY10 report is not yet available.
2. The Library Trustee Funds report was reviewed.
3. The board approved the transfer of \$1,000 of Mahoney trustee funds to City Fund 83 to be spent in accordance with budget, and approved transfer of funds in funds 80-82 and 83.

Director’s Report

1. The Director reviewed the Statistical Activity Report, and pointed out trends over the year and past five years. Since moving into the new building, the library has seen an increase of 1,000 patrons per year. Total visits to the library increased from 293,772 in FY09 to 455,834 in FY10.
2. The Director reviewed the highlights of the FY10 Annual Report and planning for FY11.
3. The Summer Program schedule was reviewed; attendance has been strong and enthusiastic for the range of activities offered this summer.
4. Exhibits. There’s currently an exhibit on seashells, and the Arts in Reach program will be exhibiting in August.

Assistant Director’s Report

1. Readers Advisory Projects and Services. More information is being provided and tailored to customers’ needs. This includes online suggestions of book titles based on a reader’s other selections, personalized reading suggestions based on individual patron questionnaire (“Books for You”). The library staff also offer suggestions via the “Staff Picks.”

Trustees Activities / Reports / Discussion. The Librarian is waiting for the Mayor to review the trustee candidate applications.

New Business – none.

Old Business – none.

Acceptance of Gifts and Grants. The board approved the Paul & Sylvia Shoer donation of \$18.00 to the Levenson Lecture, and \$40.00 from Portsmouth College Women’s Club in memory of Louise Flynn McGee.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Next Regular Full Board Meeting: September 15, 2010

Respectfully Submitted,

Grace Lessner, Secretary