

Portsmouth Library Board of Trustees
Minutes
Wednesday, April 20, 2011, 6:30 p.m., MacLeod Board Room

Present: Elly Abelson, Valerie Cunningham, Kate Gill Kressley, Grace Lessner, John O'Leary, Megan Tehan
Excused: Carol Chellman, Jody Record
Staff: Mary Ann List

Secretary's Report. The minutes from the March 16, 2011 meeting were approved.

Financial Report

1. The director reviewed the income/expenditure report through March 2011; we've spent about 70% of the budget.
2. The Library Trustee Funds report was postponed until the May meeting.
3. The Board approved the following transfers: \$1,000 from Mahoney funds for a magician to teach kids magic and a geocaching activity; \$1,000 from archival supplies; and \$5,000 for materials (lines 18 and 3).

Director's Report

1. Staff activities.
 - A. Committees from Visioning Sessions are implementing the following recommendations from the sessions: Request/page items currently on shelf; revamping the arrangement of materials/signage; cross-training; quiet zones/social spaces/busy areas; parking planning.
 - B. Department evaluations are being conducted the week of April 25.
 - C. The Summer Reading Program theme is "One World Many Stories."
 - D. The Summer Discovery program with Portsmouth Recreation Department is supported by the Mahoney grant.
2. Spring Programs
 - A. Upcoming programs include children's programs, family programs (movies and geocaching), films, Music from the Traditions program, baseball series (presentation, book discussion) and a Royal Wedding Viewing and Tea Party on 4/29. Ongoing programs include book discussions, writing groups, knitting group and computer classes. Community programs include the Women's Clothing Swap (5/14) and Recycled Art Exhibit through May.
3. FY12 Budget.
 - A. The Work Session with City Council is scheduled for April 21. The reopened Public Hearing will be held May 9. The Library has been level funded for four years. Because state funding hasn't been determined yet, the budget is not expected to be finalized until June.
 - B. Building Issues and Improvements. The front door wind block project is underway. Public Works is assisting and the architect has sent drawings to the engineers.
 - C. The Middle School project is not yet fully underway. There is no contract yet with the construction company. There will be a parking ombudsman to help manage the limited number of parking spots. The sewer separation project will also occur this summer.
4. Update on e-books and readers. They continue to be popular and a shift is foreseen to purchasing more electronic books. Devices have been well cared for thus far. The Library has received its first request for an e-only book. E-books tend to be cheaper than hard-copy books.

Trustees Activities / Reports / Discussion. There is a vacancy on the Library Trustees Board. The mayor has asked for guidance from the Board in selecting a new trustee.

New Business. Old Business – none.

Acceptance of Gifts and Grants. The board accepted a \$30 gift of Nancy London and John Bohenko in memory of Rick Harding.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.
Next regular full board meeting: May 18, 2011

Respectfully submitted,

Grace Lessner