

**Portsmouth Public Library Board of Trustees**  
**Minutes for Trustee Meeting November 18, 2015**

**Present:** Shaula Levenson, Ernie Greenslade, Jack Jamison, John Crist, Jeff Landry, Don Margeson, Bruce Boley, Jolanda Fannin, Stephanie Hausman

**Staff:** Steve Butzel, Christine Friese

**Meeting called to order at 6:32.**

**Minutes** of October 21, 2015 meeting accepted.

**Financial Report**

-Income/Expenditure report through Oct. 31, 2015 reviewed. On target for budget at 1/3 through the fiscal year.

**Director's Report**

-Steve shared a Twitter accolade and good press for Star Wars Day.

**-Programs:**

- National Novel Writing Month is in progress, tonight is 1<sup>st</sup> of 2 write ins.
- Peace of Mind Series: Decluttering, Nov. 3<sup>rd</sup> (over 75 people in attendance)
- Telescope demonstration, Nov. 7<sup>th</sup>
- In Stitches (weekly knitting etc group) guest speaker, Nov. 10<sup>th</sup>
- Parenting in a Digital Age, Nov. 12<sup>th</sup>; collaboration w/ New Heights.
- Star Wars Day, Nov. 14<sup>th</sup> (over 200 in attendance)
- Sensory Story Times, Nov. 14<sup>th</sup> (for special needs or would benefit from tactile experience)
- Minecraft, 3 meetings in November

Upcoming:

- Joe Keefe, World Affairs Series, Nov. 19<sup>th</sup> (last of 2<sup>nd</sup> series of World Affairs talks, will hopefully pick up again in the spring)
- DIY Google Cardboard workshop, Nov. 20<sup>th</sup>
- programming will have a bit of a slowdown as the staff considers goals and objectives.

**-Outreach**

- Met with Executive Director of Crossroads, Nov. 12th (as part of library's thinking about how to get wifi hotspots to those in community most in need)
- Presentation given to 5 newly elected City Councilors, Nov. 16th
- Upcoming visit from Gloucester Lyceum and Sawyer Free Library, December 8<sup>th</sup>

**-Partnerships**

-We are hosting PMAC Holiday Concert, Dec. 18<sup>th</sup>, 7-8pm, the library will close for the event.

**-Building's 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary** (12/16/16) Celebration Committee will meet starting in December.

-Discussed increasing the # of meetings organizations could have at the library from 8 to 10 per year. Steve will get us some more info on room usage.

**Trustees Activities / Reports / Discussion**

- Trustees expressed interest in touring other libraries
- Bruce met with Russ Grazier from PMAC to discuss additional concerts at the library; a series of after-school events.

**New Business**

- Library fees: currently \$90 nonresident fee for year (\$50 for ½ year) (\$80/\$45 for seniors); this was changed about 2 years ago. Other libraries' fees vary widely, with different goals. Our fees were arrived at by looking at what portion of a Portsmouth resident's tax bill goes to the library. We approved keeping the fees the same.
- We approved the list of library holidays
- Privacy policy discussion continued: discussed various approaches given the privacy statute. We'll continue the discussion.

**Acceptance of Gifts and Grants**

Amended gift from Heinemann Publishing for AWE Early Literacy Station. Actual gift amount is \$2,900 (rather than \$3,000) due to actual cost of the equipment being clarified. Accepted.

**Meeting adjourned** at 7:52. We agreed not to meet in December.

**Next Regular Full Board Meeting:** January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2016 at 6:30.