Minutes of the May 17, 2017 Meeting
Portsmouth Public Library Board of Trustees

Attendance: Ernie Greenslade, John Crist, Don Margeson, Jack Jamison, Shaula Levenson, Stephanie Hausman
Staff: Steve Butzel, Christine Friese

Meeting called to order at 6:31
Minutes of April 19, 2017 meeting approved on Don’s motion, Shaula seconded.

Financial Report: we are spending the money towards our target. Steve is keeping track of over & under budget line items.

Director’s and Assistant Director’s Reports
- HR news: Bob Miller has retired, interviews in process to fill that circulation position. Nicole Cloutier has moved into a supervisor position, Mike Huxtable is planning to come back for his final month following a medical leave.
- FY18 Municipal Budget process is on track
- RFP for ILS update – 1 bid so far, deadline June 15.
- New brickwork out front of library coming, 2 panels over magazines to be replaced
- NH Library Association Spring Conference occurred in Portsmouth, several staff attended, Laura presented on marketing and graphic design
- Snazzy new furniture ordered for Youth Services from Trafton gift, new games and high chairs also being purchased
- Letter of support for City’s Moose Plate Preservation Grant application to support preservation work for old city documents/records; Athaneum also applied for other old city records that they inherited
- Library Programs
  - World Affairs speaker series: Stephen Kinzer, about 65 people attended
  - First Sunday Guitar series, about 50 people attended
  - Clothing Swap! About 250 people
  - Kids Planting Day, June 3rd
  - The library is hosting the Sustainability Alliance Summit, June 8th
  - Summer Reading Kickoff, June 23rd; teen summer reading kickoff on July 5
  - How-To-Festival on Aug 5, food trucks and other food will be there
- General Comments:
  - A patron recently wanted to take photos of other patrons, staff is considering a policy on this topic.
  - Seacoast Mental Health offers a mental health first aid training, our staff is interested in getting more training on dealing with different situations. Some may take that training or we may ask for a more focused presentation.
  - Christine was in DC recently for National Library Legislative Day and advocated with our legislators on why funding for libraries is so critical (because White House budget cut all funding).
  - A new cookbook book club is starting in the fall, members will bring food!
  - 2 foodie programs this summer: James Haller from the Blue Strawberry and Evan Mallett from Black Trumpet
  - 2 new language groups: Swedish and Chinese; Christine will touch base with all the liaisons for the groups now that the program is more than a year old.
  - Levenson Room carpeting being replaced
  - NH Archives Group holding their spring meeting here next week, Nicole Cloutier will become president of that organization

Trustees Investments Subcommittee update: Don, Shaula, & Jolanda have volunteered for this endeavor.

Meeting adjourned at 7:37.

Next Regular Full Board Meeting: June 21st, 2017