

Portsmouth Public Library Trustees Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, July 20, 2005

Present: Amy Brnger, Ed DelValle, Suzanne Foley, Raimond Bowles, Theresa Garabedian, Sue McCann, Mary Ann List, guests from Portsmouth Democratic Friends of the Community

Excused: Dana Levenson, Phyllis Eldridge, Maria Sillari, Barbara Ward

I. CALL TO ORDER: Treasurer Suzanne Foley called the meeting to order at 7:18 p.m.

II. SECRETARY'S REPORT: Meeting minutes were not available from the previous meeting to be accepted.

III. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mary Ann List suggested that the meeting begin with the Director's report, as our guests were interested in hearing about the status and progress of the new library. The guests were members of the Portsmouth Democrats Democratic Friends of the Community. They attended the meeting in order to inject some momentum with fundraising for the new library by making a collective donation of \$1,000. Speaking for the group, Peter Somssich read a letter regarding the donation and intent. Mary Ann List indicated that the group will be on the agenda at the August 1st City Council Meeting to announce their donation.

New library: Mary Ann List gave a progress report regarding the new library. Mary Ann List presented the group with a LEED process update. The LEED process has been a learning experience for all involved. Mary Ann List explained to the visiting group that architect Tom Amsler had not done LEED certified building work prior to this meeting, but was partnered with others who do have experience with this type of construction. The Jordan Institute in Concord, NH has also been assisting the library with the LEED process.

Due to the spring and summer rains, we are approximately one month behind schedule, but summer 2006 finish is still anticipated. Pile construction is on task; 250 piles have been driven in the ground. The rest will be installed by next week. Concrete work will follow the pile installation.

Other news: The two-year computer upgrade is nearing completion. The catalog will be completed by September 2005, in time for the beginning of the school year. A part time Library Assistant will be hired to replace Hilary Wentworth, who is leaving to attend graduate school. The trustees received copies of Portsmouth Library packet regarding mission and goals, Library Bill of Rights, and library policies. Mary Ann List encouraged the trustees to review these documents and suggest revisions or concerns at the next meeting.

IV. FINANCIAL REPORT: Sue McCann reviewed the library trust fund account balances. There were no questions. Sue McCann noted the change in the total because of the money spent by the library for purposes requested during the budget year.

Mary Ann List reviewed the gross budget, noting that final totals are still not in yet due to the recent closing of the fiscal year. The library expenditures will come close to the targeted budget.

V. ASSISTANT DIRECTOR'S REPORT

VI. OLD BUSINESS

VII. NEW BUSINESS

Rai Bowles inquired about the status of fund raising for the new library. Mary Ann List said the committee for fund raising is being assembled. Groups have contacted Mary Ann List regarding conducting fundraising events.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

The next meeting of the Library Trustees was set for Wednesday, August 17, 2005, at 7 p.m., at the Portsmouth Public Library.

Meeting notes prepared by A. Brnger