

Portsmouth Library Board of Trustees
Meeting Minutes: Feb. 18, 2009

Present: Elly Abelson, Jody Record, Betsy Shultis, Megan Tehan, Mary Ann List, Steve Butzel, Ann Walker.

Excused: Barbara Ward, Amy Brnger, Carol Lincoln, John O'Leary

Minutes from January 21, 2009 meeting approved.

Financial Report

Megan Tehan will put \$45,000 into two CDs at Bank of America – one for \$35,000; one for \$10,000

Distribution of Trustees of the Trustees Fund during February. Had projected \$5,000. Total: \$9,074.48.

Director's Report

The 2009-2010 budget has been submitted to the finance department. The city requested level-funded budgets. Efforts to protect hours of service and staff are reflected in the budget. In order to achieve a level-funded budget, there is a small decrease in the funds requested for purchasing materials. It is expected that there will be an increase in demand for library services in the coming year as generally happens during difficult economic times.

The meeting room use has been extended to 8 times a year instead of 5.

Monthly offerings continue to increase including tax preparation services by AARP, previously done at City Hall.

The memorandum of agreement with the State of New Hampshire Department of Historical Resources calls for a permanent exhibit that will honor the architectural history of the armory. Mary Ann is working on the exhibit along with Todd Hanson of JSA Architects.

Steve Butzel discussed Encore, the new catalog interface that will provide a more modern look to the library Web site. Working to allow edits on book reserve process.

Library patrons can now choose to keep a record of books that they have borrowed from the library. In addition, patrons can store preferred searches and be notified by email when books meeting search criteria are added to the library collection.

New Business

The Art Acceptance Committee needs to meet to discuss two inquiries regarding art

donations. Committee members will meet and report back to the Board at the March meeting.

The Board of Trustees remembered former trustee Elaine Hussey who secured the memorial that's in front of the library, given by the Class of 1940.

Trustees accepted \$1,000 grant for preservation from the Rosamund Thaxter Foundation [**motion: Betsy Shultis, second Ann Walker**] and \$500.00 from the Christianson estate [**motion Ann Walker, second Megan Tehan**].

Old Business

As Mary Ann previously reported, the meeting with city officials and architects for the new middle school addition resulted in the library getting the parking it needs. The only change is that two-hour parking will be for all users not just library patrons. Deputy Director of Public Works, Dave Allen, will provide updates and report any changes.

Meeting adjourned 7:39 p.m. [**motion: Betsy Shultis, second Ann Walker**]