

Portsmouth Library Board of Trustees

Meeting Minutes: Nov. 18, 2009

Present: Elly Abelson, Carol Lincoln, Grace Lessner, John O'Leary, Jody Record, Betsy Shultis, Megan Tehan, Ann Walker

Mary Ann List, Steve Butzel.

Minutes from October 2009 meeting approved.

Financial Report

Income and expenditures are where they were expected to be at this time.

Megan will meet with Mary Ann and Morgan Stanley representative regarding investing funds.

Director's Report

Goal setting, the first step of the budget process, is underway. The budget process will start in January 2010. Mary Ann will email the goals and input from staff for review.

Review of Fees: Question whether the non-resident fee should be increased this year. It was increased \$5 in 2009.

Motion: John, second Ann: leave non-resident fee structure as it is currently. Unanimous.

Programs: Crafternoons for middle school age patrons so successful a section was added for elementary school students. Book group on break; resumes in February. Music continues on Sundays.

Upcoming programs: Handmade Nation, Saturday December 5 at 2:00 pm
Maria Stewart "Words of Fire," December 9 at 7:00 pm

The library will have a tree in the Festival of Trees Nov. 20 – 21, 2009.

Staff activity: Staff members have been participating in professional conferences. Steve has been elected the ALA Councilor for the NHLA.

Technology

Mary Ann, Steve and department supervisors have met with the public school library workers to discuss shared technology and services. Mary Ann stressed the need to advocate for the school libraries, particularly given their high turnover of staff this year.

Trustee Activity

Discussion: Officially adopting the rules of behavior for the library that have been posted for some time.

Motion: Jody; second, Betsy, to accept the rules of behavior subject to legal review, if necessary.

Update: the Right to Know Law applies to technology.

The Trustee vacancy has been noted by the City Clerk. Gary Lowe, who is interested in becoming a trustee, attended the Nov. 18 meeting as an observer.

Election of officers:

Elly Abelson, Chair

Jody Record, Vice Chair

Grace Lessner, Secretary

Megan Tehan, Treasurer

Acceptance of Gifts and Grants

Motion: John, second, Carol to accept gifts and grants: cash, \$100, no restriction; Heinemann Publishing, \$200, no restriction; Goodwill Industries, \$150, to support the program Handmade Nation; Miriam Fairbanks, \$100, no restrictions; Anne Rehner, \$40, for book purchase in memory of Arlene Frost; Friends of the South End, \$200, in support of library programming.

No December meeting

Meeting adjourned – 8:02 p.m. –Motion, Betsy; second, John

The next meeting of the Board of Trustees will be Jan. 20, at 6:30 p.m., in the MacLeod Board Room. Please email Mary Ann at malist@cityofportsmouth.com or Barbara Weismann bhweismann@cityofportsmouth.com or call 766-1710 if you are unable to attend.