



Newport Public Library
Board of Trustees
Meeting Minutes ~ October 21, 2021
4:30 PM

Attendance:

NPL Staff: Joseph Logue, Ann Amaral, Alexandria Sukackas

Board: Peter Baylor, Brad Carter, Kenneth Castiglia, Jon Davies, Michael Dutton, Andrea Groce, Matthew Leys, Kyle Martin, Charlotte Marshall, Edwina Sebest, Adrienne Shaw, Stephen Waluk, Janine Weisman

Excused:

Staff: Patricia Fetta

Board: Lynn Ceglie, Scott Skuncik

1. Call to Order & Determination of a Quorum: A quorum was determined; meeting was called to order at 4:30pm.
2. Amendments to the Agenda: There was a motion and second to approve the agenda; motion was approved.
3. Minutes of the September 2021 meeting: There was a motion and second to approve minutes of September 2021 meeting; motion was approved.
4. Finance Committee Report: Michael Dutton reported that assets with Wells Fargo dropped in value, but it is part of a usual pattern so not a concern. Library income was down and expenses were up a small amount.
5. President's Report: Steve Waluk will wait to discuss in deference to remaining agenda.
6. Building & Grounds Committee Report: There was no report as Scott Scuncik is not in attendance.
7. Financial Development Report: Ali Sukackas has joined the library and will be working with Joe on fund development. Planning has begun on the 'Novel Evening' to be held in June 2022, most likely at the library.
8. Friends of Library Report: Jon Davies reported that the Friends' Bookstore will be open on Sundays from 2-4pm. This expands the bookstore to 30 hours per week. The Holiday Sale, including gift quality books, will be held from December 3rd-8th this year.
9. Director Report: Joseph Logue reported that the library is back to full operating hours. It is now open on Sundays from 1-5pm; there will be a total of 24 open Sundays. Library closing time is back to 8:30pm Monday through Thursday. Edwina Sebest commented that the Thank You email to the Friends of the Library Joseph Logue sent out was printed in *Newport This Week*.
10. Old Business: Fine Abatement and Cessation Discussion
Joseph Logue provided details of the fine abatement report. He proposes NPL join two-thirds majority of RI libraries and cease collecting late fees; amnesty would be granted for fees currently owed. Museum passes, equipment rentals, and fines for already billed lost or damaged items will be retained. NPL will take small financial hit that can be made up with other chargeable items, such as room rentals. Janine Weisman questioned whether theft would become an issue. Joseph Logue will inform the Board when the new meeting room policy takes effect and how public will be informed. He anticipates that library card sign-ups will grow as a result. Steve Waluk requested a motion to approve the new policy; there was a motion, a second and was approved.

11. New Business: *Meeting Room Policy*

Joseph Logue commented that use of meeting rooms increased during the pandemic, especially for zoom sessions and collaborative meetings. He would like to charge a room use fee to organizations other than non-profits. Joseph Logue will provide a recommendation at the next meeting and the Board may vote on it.

Meeting Date Change

In a change to regular schedule, the next meeting will be on **Thursday, December 2nd, 2021, at 4:30pm.**

12. Adjournment: A motion to adjourn the meeting was made and seconded; meeting adjourned at 5:15pm.