

**Newport Public Library**  
**Board of Trustees**  
**Monthly Meeting – April 20, 2023**

**In Attendance**

*NPL Staff:* Joseph Logue, Erin Shaw

*Board:* Meredith Buonvino, Brad Carter, Kenneth Castiglia, Jon Davies, Andrea Groce, Charlotte Marshall, Kyle Martin, Alan Ridnour, Edwina Sebest, Adrienne Shaw

**Absent**

Dave Carlin

**Call to Order & Determination of a Quorum**

A quorum was determined; meeting was called to order at 4:31pm.

**Amendments to Agenda**

A motion was made and seconded to approve the agenda.

**Minutes of Previous Meeting**

A motion was made and seconded to approve minutes of February meeting.

*Note: There was no March 2023 meeting due to lack of quorum.*

**Finance Committee Report**

Ken Castiglia reported that expenses such as library materials and payroll/benefits are below budget. The Library is trending closer to break-even than its past several months of deficit. NPL's cash position is strong; Certificates of Deposit are rolling over with advanced yields.

**President's Report**

Brad Carter informed the Board that he had received the resignation of Stephen Waluk from the Library Board; he is taking a position with the City of Newport. Steve included the comment that NPL is appreciated by the many citizens he speaks with and extended his thanks to the library.

**Building and Grounds Committee Report**

Joe Logue encouraged all to read Jim Maas's monthly report attached to the meeting materials. He informed the Board that the Library was very fortunate that Jim Maas decided to maintain his Library employment rather than accept a position with the City of Newport. The Personnel Committee worked to grant a pay increase for Jim in order to retain him.

**Financial Development Report**

No report.

**Friends of the Library Report**

Jon Davies reported that the children's pop-up sale in February raised \$1196 for The Friends. They donated 140 children's books to the MLK Center and books in Spanish to The Conexion Latina.

Children's Librarian Cathy Gould requested \$3000 from The Friends for this summer's Summer Reading Program; The Friends generously donated \$3500.

Museum passes for patrons were purchased; Edwina commented that Bookstore ads in *Newport This Week* seem to be increasing patronage.

This was Jon Davies last meeting with the Board, he is moving to the west coast. Edwina invited everyone to a party for Jon on May 4<sup>th</sup>.

#### **Library Director's Report**

Joe reported that he attended the City budget meeting last week. He submitted a request for a 2% increase in the City's annual contribution to the library. This will be taken up at the May 6<sup>th</sup> City meeting. If the City increases its contribution, the State of RI will also increase its contribution.

City Councilor Dave Carlin has replaced Lynn Ceglie as City liaison to the Library.

Joe discussed his visit to the original Newport Daily News site on Malbone Road; spare space there could be used for a Library branch location. The site is currently owned by an out-of-state individual who uses the bottom floor for storage. The next step is for an architect to tour the space and detail costs to re-create it as a Library branch. The location of the site is advantageous for Newport's North End citizens, for whom transportation to Spring Street is difficult.

Joe announced the return to the Library's Summer Hours beginning May 14<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

#### **Old Business**

None.

#### **New Business**

None.

#### **Adjournment**

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made and seconded; meeting was adjourned at 5:00pm.

*Next meeting will be on Thursday, May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023, at 4:30pm.*

*Respectfully Submitted,*

*May 12, 2023*

*Adrienne Shaw*

*Secretary to the Board*