

**Newport Public Library**  
**Board of Trustees**  
**Monthly Meeting – March 20, 2024**

**In Attendance**

*NPL Staff:* Joseph Logue, Alexandra Calandro

*Board:* Peter Baylor, Merideth Bonvino, Kristie Gardiner, Pat Heller, Tanner Jackson, Judy McCarthy, Edwina Sebest, Adrienne Shaw

**Absent**

Charlotte Marshall, Kyle Martin, Alan Ridnour

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

A quorum was determined; meeting was called to order at 4:30pm.

**Approval of Agenda**

A motion was made and seconded to approve the agenda.

**Minutes of Previous Meetings**

A motion was made and seconded to approve minutes of the February 2024 meeting.

**Finance Committee Report**

Merideth reported that the Library has a sizable 11-month Certificate of Deposit with Bank Newport that is coming due soon. It can be rolled over or cashed in to supply funds for a current need - as an example, the establishment of a second branch. A motion was made to roll over the CD; it was tabled by unanimous vote after Tanner Jackson suggested waiting to make the decision at the next Board meeting in April.

**President's Report**

None.

**Building and Grounds Committee Report**

The Board was referred to Jim Maas's monthly report distributed with the Board meeting materials in advance of the meeting.

Discussion followed about possibility of installing rooftop solar panels to save on energy costs once Library roof is repaired or replaced. Joe stated that Dave Carlin, the Library's City Council liaison, has agreed to be "point person" and lead the funding effort with the Council.

**Financial Development Report**

None.

**Friends of the Library Report**

Pat Heller reported that there are now 44 members of the Friends organization.

The \$1 book sale generated \$ 1,957.

The Friends presented Joe a check for \$3500 to be used for the 2024 summer reading program.

**Library Director's Report**

Joe reported that Cathy, head children's librarian, presented the 2024 summer reading program and it will be 'amazing'. He thanked the Friends for their contribution of the \$3500 to fund the effort; it is even more than the amount requested.

The Library has a good supply of solar eclipse glasses for the April 8<sup>th</sup> eclipse. These will be made available for free to patrons beginning April 1<sup>st</sup>.

OLIS will be providing a grant to fund podcast equipment that can be used collaboratively by high school students from different schools.

Per Joe's recent discussion, details continue to be worked out but settlement of the lawsuit is moving to a swift conclusion.

The office assistant Jean, who has been out on medical leave, is not able to return and has resigned. This position will need to be filled.

Kristie Gardiner recommended that a building committee for the potential new branch project be formed and meet before further discussions with current owner of the Newport Daily News building.

**Old Business**

None.

**New Business**

None.

**Adjournment**

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made and seconded; meeting was adjourned at 4:50 pm.

*Next meeting will be held on Thursday, May 16th, 2024, at 4:30pm.*

*Respectfully Submitted,*

*March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024*

*Adrienne Shaw*

*Secretary to the Board*