The Newport News Public Library Board of Trustees met on February 19, 2019 in the James Room of the Library Administration Office.


Absent: P. Mercier, J. Richter, X. Draper, E. Young, C. Samuels, L. Atkins

The meeting was called to order at 6:10 p.m. At the time of call to order, the meeting did not meet quorum.

Introduction of Youth Representative
Board Chair, T. Wright introduced one of the newly appointed youth representatives, J. Felton. Mr. Felton is a homeschooled student and was recommended by Mayor’s commission. He is looking forward to contributing to the Library’s Board of Trustees.

Librarian’s Report
S. Alcántara-Antoine reviewed Library Chapters for February 2019. Highlights included over 150 citizens attended Main Street Library’s Say It Loud program. Exhibit currently in Virginiana Room featuring 12 unsung heroes on display from Southeast community will be available for the next few months. The genealogy conference on February 23 at Main Street has full registration. Meeting room online reservation system was launched today.

Presentation on Trustee Advocacy –Kim Armentrout
The Board discussed in December the need for determining some strategies for library advocacy. Ms. Armentrout presented tools, resources, and suggestions for how to advocate and key factors of successful advocacy. Advocates need to know and support the Library, identify a priority for funding, assemble a team and set a goal. Suggestions were provided for possible taglines and slogans.

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The Board discussed some possible ways they could advocate for the Library. They agreed to come up with more suggestions and strategies and submit them to C. Skeen of the Library prior to next meeting.

At 7:05 p.m. with quorum being met, the Board voted to approve the January Minutes.

The next scheduled meeting of the Newport News Public Library Board of Trustees will be on March 19, 2019 at 6:00 pm, at Pearl Bailey Library.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sonia Alcántara-Antoine, Director
Secretary, ex-officio