Minutes

The Newport News Public Library Board of Trustees met on May 21, 2019, in the James Room of the Library Administration office.


Absent: P. Mercier, X. Draper, L. Atkins

The meeting was called to order at 6:06 p.m. Quorum was met.

Approval of Minutes
T. Hammond made a motion to approve the April 16, 2019 Minutes. D. Maahs seconded the motion. Minutes were approved as written.

Virginiana Room – J. Wagner
J. Wagner of The Library presented an overview of the Virginiana Room at Main Street and provided information on various resources available, such as photographs, yearbooks, historical newspapers and obituaries.

Librarian’s Report
Library Chapters - May
As we near the end of the fiscal year, most of our budget money is expended. We are seeing an increase in program attendance across the board. We will kick off Summer Reading program after school ends. Other highlights include the Library’s recent upgrade to its Integrated Library System (ILS). The ILS is 15 years old and is due to be replaced in 2020. Patrons should see improvements with self-checkout kiosks. We will also be updating our website soon and looking to improve our print technology and add wireless printing. The Festival of Friends held on May 4, 2019 was a huge success with approximately 9,000 total attendance.

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New Business
The City was awarded the Choice Neighborhood Initiative Grant for $30 million. A portion of that money will go to purchasing an outreach vehicle for our Early Literacy Outreach Coordinator to take to visit preschools. The design plans for Pearl Bailey were presented to City Manager and she is reviewing. We would like to coordinate the work with other CNI renovations taking place.

R. Maynard updated the Board on volunteering efforts she participated in. For National Library Week, the Acts of Kindness Club at Menchville High School reached out to Main Street Library to see how they could be of service. They participated in the Easter egg hunt activity. The club members hope to volunteer again for summer reading events. The school is also in need of a location to store books.

The next scheduled meeting of the Newport News Public Library Board of Trustees will be on June 18, 2019 at 6:00 pm, at the Grissom Library.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:28 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sonia Alcántara-Antoine, Director
Secretary, ex-officio

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