



March 17, 2022 Minutes

The Newport News Public Library Board of Trustees met on March 17, 2022, in the James Room of the Administrative Office.

Attending: R. Tench, D. Dangerfield, T. Wright, P. Mercier, D. Thomas, W. Barbour, M. Frantz, L. Atkins, C. Samuels, D. Butler; A. Jennings, J. Curtis and C. Skeen representing the Library; and guest Linda Hargis

Absent: B. Dahlen, K. Akins, W. Driscoll

The meeting was called to order at 6:07 p.m. The meeting met quorum.

Approval of February 15, 2022 Minutes

D. Thomas made a motion to approve the minutes. C. Samuels seconded. Minutes were approved.

Library Collection Overview – J. Curtis, Support Services Manager

Mr. Curtis is the head of the Collection Services Department. When the West Avenue Library closed in 2013 that department moved into this location. They used to be called Technical Services, however that title was confusing and led people to believe they were technical support. Collection Services purchases, prepares, and inventories all materials; physical and digital. More than 10,000 items come through each year. The selection process is collaborative and involves patron requests and selectors from across the system. All requests and recommendations are reviewed by Collection Services prior to purchase. Collection Services continuously evaluates materials in the collection. Upcoming evaluations/discussions will include additional streaming video and e-magazine collections. Configuring and maintaining the Integrated Library System (ILS), which is the software package is a primary CS duty.

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Some challenges and opportunities of both the physical collection and the digital collection were presented. The addition of the Outreach department will get more books into the hands of early readers and others. There is limited access to streaming content as opposed to physical media. More digital options means wider outreach and zero loss liability. The digital collection is comprised of a mix of selected/purchased resources and a good amount of content provided by State of Virginia Library.

The Board was given the opportunity to ask questions after the presentation concluded.

Librarian's Report – February Monthly Roundup

This edition of the monthly roundup highlighted the Hidden Figures Women of NASA and Social Security Services programs. The Library's goal is to incorporate some type of informational program monthly.

This Saturday's ceremony We Stand for Justice will take place at Main Street at 11 am.

We are planning two fundraisers with the Library Foundation Board. One will be during National Library Week in the first week of April and the second will be in May during the 757 Give Local. We will set a goal of \$10,000.

We recently installed a new AMH check-in system last Friday. There were new kiosks installed and are still making modifications. The Main Street Library was power washed in preparation for Saturday's event.

There will be a meeting later this month with architects regarding the Sherwood Shopping Center and the new Grissom Library. Anita will be able to share information at next meeting.

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Newport News Public Library

D. Dangerfield asked a question regarding a statement from the February meeting minutes that we would be requesting a Librarian I position. A. Jennings explained that, if approved, this person will go into the Newsome House and digitize the collection for preservation so everyone can have access. The collection is not just photos; there are letters and other types of artifacts and media, such as voice recordings.

P. Mercier motioned to adjourn. T. Wright seconded. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:46 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Anita Jennings', written over a horizontal line.

Anita Jennings, Director
Secretary, ex-officio

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