



## Minutes

The Newport News Public Library Board of Trustees met on March 19, 2019 at the Pearl Bailey Library.

Attending: T. Wright, M. Keeling, D. Maahs, R. Tench, M. Frantz, K. Akins, C. Samuels, R. Maynard, J. Felton; S. Alcántara-Antoine, A. Jennings, and C. Skeen representing the Library.

Absent: P. Mercier, J. Richter, X. Draper, L. Atkins, T. Hammond

The meeting was called to order at 6:03 p.m. The meeting did meet quorum.

### Approval of Minutes

The February 19, 2019 Minutes were approved as presented.

### Librarian's Report

#### *Library Chapters - March*

All Library usage and program attendance is up. The Library had its regional Battle of the Books competition in Williamsburg this past Saturday. General Stanford Elementary School in Newport News was the winner. We've been doing Battle of the Books for the past 25 years and this is third consecutive year a Newport News school has taken home the trophy.

### Interior Design Study

Final concept drawings and floor plans from Enteros were distributed to the Board and S. Alcantara-Antoine reviewed the proposed changes. Question was asked by board member if more staff will be coming because of increased space. The Library does not anticipate a staff increase because the number of service points will remain unchanged. Question was asked by board member if the new meeting rooms could be named after an individual for a cost. The City does not do that and the money will be coming from the Capital Improvement Plan. Question was asked pertaining to the estimated timeline. Pearl Bailey could be ten months to one year and Main Street could be one to five years,

## **ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES**

700 Town Center Drive, Suite 300 | Newport News, VA 23606 | 757- 926-1350 | F 757-926-1365



# Newport News Public Library

depending on how many phases. Pearl Bailey would have to relocate to a temporary site during renovations while Main Street could remain operational. Pearl Bailey also needs updating of plumbing and electrical. Question was asked by board member if Pearl Bailey could expand into the back lot. The City does own that property and we will eventually request that but this study only evaluated the existing space. A newspaper article from Daily Press regarding the interior design study was also provided to the Board.

## Old Business – Advocacy Ideas

How can the Board be better advocates? Ideas were collected via email and presented to members. T. Wright led the group in a discussion and suggested holding some type of specific event. R. Maynard offered to bring to the attention of students at her school and try to recruit people to participate in making a video. Suggestion was made regarding collaborating with another library system to have a joint partnership for National Library Week. The Library is working to collect video clips to submit to NNTV. Suggestion was made to create a lip sync battle similar to what the police department did last year.

Another suggestion was to focus on one specific effort, i.e. the new Grissom Library, as the goal for advocating. Tomorrow night recommendations will be presented for Denbigh Warwick Plan at the last community meeting. City Council will be asked to approve the final recommendations. There is still opportunity for final decision to be tweaked based on public feedback Thursday. Suggestion was made to speak to someone who was part of the City Farm group to find out what they did to be so successful in their efforts.

## New Business – New Board Member Recommendations

Board member E. Young resigned and we need to fill her position. Candidate must be a Newport News resident and it would be great to have someone from the area of Pearl Bailey or South Morrison Library. Please let Director of Libraries know if you have anyone to recommend. We had two applications on file but one was ineligible due to Hampton residency and the other also serves on Electoral board and City Council did not approve.

The next scheduled meeting of the Newport News Public Library Board of Trustees will be on April 16, 2019 at 6:00 pm, at Main Street Library.

## **ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES**

700 Town Center Drive, Suite 300 | Newport News, VA 23606 | 757- 926-1350 | F 757-926-1365



There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Salcantara", is written over a horizontal line.

Sonia Alcántara-Antoine, Director  
Secretary, ex-officio

## ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES

700 Town Center Drive, Suite 300 | Newport News, VA 23606 | 757- 926-1350 | F 757-926-1365