

Newport Library Board Meeting Minutes
March 18, 2009

Attending:

Sharon Beardsley, Chip Norman, Curt Fewkes, Carol Fisher, Ted Smith, Terry Obteshka, Jeff Ingram (recorder)

1. Meeting called to order at 5:19 PM.
2. Previous meeting's minutes were approved as read.
3. Materials challenge:

Smith informed Board that a patron has asked that the DVD, *Queer Duck*, be removed from the library collection. Smith noted that the DVD was purchased in 2006 and has circulated 69 times since then. Smith asked each board member to view the challenged material and a meeting with the patron will be held on Tuesday March 31 at 10:00 AM. Obteshka suggested that city attorney Gary Firestone might be requested to attend the meeting to provide legal guidance. Smith will inform patron of meeting.
4. Budget Update:

Smith will meet with city manager Shaddox to review library budget request. Smith has 3 main goals for the upcoming fiscal year: increase materials budget from \$104,000 to \$114,000, make several improvements to the building (stair carpeting replacement and area painting, meeting room repairs), and purchase of new PCs. Smith also noted library had to give up \$14,000 in capital improvements (parking lot lighting) due to citywide budgetary cutbacks. Fisher asked if library budget didn't already include funds for general maintenance. Smith responded that the funds for that line item were very limited. He also reported that the self-checkout machine has been ordered and should arrive in April.
5. Default Price Changes:

Smith outlined a few changes to default charges for lost materials when items are not otherwise priced. Reference materials will rise from \$50 to \$100, Interlibrary Loans will be priced at \$100 and magazine will rise from \$3 to \$7. Beardsley asked if a note could be attached to reference and ILL materials noting that fines would be assessed for lost items.
6. Closing Dates: Smith reported that library homepage has been changed to reflect that the library is closed on Martin Luther King Day and will now be open on Fridays following Thanksgiving.
7. Painting colors:

Smith asked for board input on selecting colors to add to upcoming painting projects in the building.

8. Librarian's Report:

Smith reported a number of expensive repairs for the elevator, as well as the purchase of 5 new PCs for the staff and new laptops to facilitate the ever-increasing demand for computer classes. The laptops will allow staff greater flexibility to schedule the classes. He also noted that CRSN's IT person resigned several weeks ago and he and Sheryl Eldridge have been filling the gap left by his absence. Smith also gave details on the self-checkout machine that will be installed near the checkout desk. Beardsley asked about public training on the machine. Fewkes and Norman added that the machines are very intuitive, as each has had an opportunity to use them at other libraries. Norman also noted that self-checkout might increase circulation on items that patrons might otherwise feel uncomfortable taking to the front desk.

9. Other business:

Fewkes asked about the lack of report data for Interlibrary Loans. Smith responded that this statistic was a casualty of the loss of our IT person. Beardsley wanted to remind board of the library's program on Thursday night as part of Newport Reads! Author Lauren Kessler will be reading from her book *Stubborn Twig* in the meeting room at 7:00 PM. There will also be a Young Adult program, Henna Tattoo, in the YA section of the building that same night. Fewkes asked if Smith would email copies of the libraries policies on requests for consideration to the board in preparation for the meeting with patron about his challenge.

10. The meeting was adjourned at 6:01 PM.