

Newport Public Library Board Meeting
Wednesday, January 19, 2011

Present: Curt Fewkes, Cindy McConnell, Ted Smith, Sharon Beardsley, Carol Ruggeri, Chip Norman

President Carol Ruggeri called the meeting to order at 5:15 p.m.

Minutes: It was moved by Cindy McConnell and seconded by Chip Norman that minutes of the previous meeting be approved; the motion passed by a voice vote.

Change Board Terms: A handout reflecting the new, staggered Board terms was discussed. Cindy McConnell asked if the City needed to approve the terms, and Ted Smith said yes. Chip Norman noted an error in his contact information: the 867 number should be stricken. Clarification of term limits was made: a one year break should be observed before rejoining the Library Board after the two term limit. Sharon Beardsley moved and Carol Ruggeri seconded that the matter of length of Board terms be brought to voice vote, and it passed unanimously.

Change in Temporary Card Fee: Ted Smith explained the current temporary card policy and the proposed change to \$5 per month. Chip Norman moved and Sharon Beardsley seconded that the matter be brought to voice vote. It passed unanimously.

Librarian's Report: The Board reviewed the Librarian's Report. Ted Smith explained his switch to writing in the third person. Curt Fewkes inquired about the apparent drop in circulation from December 2009 to December 2010. Ted Smith explained that Driftwood Library was from approximately August 2009 through January or February of 2010, inflating Newport's circulation numbers. By March, a more valid comparison should be possible between current and previous year numbers.

Other Business:

- It was reiterated that Library Foundation funds are legally separate from City of Newport funds, and should not and cannot be drawn on for City of Newport expenses.
- Sharon Beardsley inquired about a training session at City Hall. Times available are noon on February 2nd, 3:30 on February 3rd.
- Ted Smith announced that Dick Beemer will be new liaison from the City Council to the Library Board. Board members clarified that the liaison position is intended to be observational, not participatory. The liaison is intended to come to the Library Board meetings, which are public, but not to the Library Foundation meetings, which do not fall under public disclosure laws.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:45 p.m.