

CONCORD PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MEETING MINUTES
Monday, November 4, 2024, 6:00 PM
Blanchard Room

In Attendance: Todd Fabian, Library Director; Jeremy Clemans; Chris Casco; Norm Kinsler, Chair; Ceillie Clark-Keane, Fatawu Issah

1. N. Kinsler called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.
2. The first agenda item was to approve the minutes of the meeting held on October 7, 2024. By motion of J. Clemans, seconded by C. Clark-Keane, the board adopted the minutes by unanimous vote.
3. The next item was public comment. There was no public comment.
4. Library Director's report: Todd Fabian, Director- The city now owns the new Penacook library space in perpetuity. If the City ever wants to sell the space, the Boys and Girls Club has a right of first refusal to purchase it. The schedule, opening date, and closing of the old building will be determined at a meeting on 11/5/24. It has yet to be determined what specific programming will be of interest to the public, but different types of programs will be tried so as to gauge interest. A part time staff member from the main library will go from part time to full time at Penacook and act as the primary point person. Outdoor programming at Rolfe Park will be done.

Concord Reads will likely be scheduled for April, 2025, with the support of the CPL Foundation. The Director and the Foundation are in discussions with an author now and hope to make a selection soon.

The Director presented a draft policy on regulating types of personal items patrons may take into the library. Patrons are starting to bring in shopping carts and/or many large parcels into the library, and they present a safety hazard, as there is no safe place

to store them or prevent them from blocking pathways. As such, there is a need for such a policy in order to maintain facility safety. Indeed, many libraries ban shopping carts and/or have similar policies. The Director proposed a new policy, which would not apply to wheeled walking aids or other ADA devices, for the board's consideration. Obstructing entrances, exits or passageways is the concern that the policy attempts to address. The intent is to prevent large carts or large groups of items that may impede the safety of others because passageways are blocked. N. Kinsler suggested preventing items without wheels but large enough to restrict transit or the freedom of movement also be restricted because the proposed policy only addressed things with wheels. That would be a separate part of this policy. T. Fabian will do further research on enforcement and bring the issue back.

The council, city manager, and the city facilities manager held a work session on the city capital improvement plan upcoming items exceeding \$1 million. There are many items. The library building will need improvements, many of them costly, that need to be compared to what a new building will cost. A new library is part of this planning process.

5. CPL Foundation Update- The library received an annual grant from January to December, 2025, of approximately \$17,000 total for various things including programs and items, for example, sensory tables.

6. New Business- The board still needs new trustees. A couple of leads did not work out. Circulation numbers continue to rise. The book sale has been consistent. The funds from the book sales are approximately \$1200 to \$1500 per month. It is an invaluable resource.

7. Old Business- None

8. Next Meeting- December 7, 2024

9. Adjournment- By motion of J. Clemans, seconded by, C. Clark-Keane, the meeting concluded by unanimous vote at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Chris Casco, Secretary

Date: November 5, 2024