

CONCORD PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Monday, September 9, 2024, 6:00 PM

Blanchard Room

In Attendance: Todd Fabian - Library Director; Jeremy Clemans, Chris Casco, Fatawu Issah, and Charles O'Leary - Vice Chair

1. C. O'Leary called the meeting to order at 6:15 pm
2. Public Comment
 - None
3. Library Director's Report and Monthly Update
 - T. Fabian discussed filling vacancies on the Board of Trustees. Trustee Michelle Marino has resigned her position on the Board and will need to be replaced. Director Fabian has a lead on a possible Trustee from Penacook, a geographical area of need for the Board.
 - The Attorney General's Trust Division has contacted the library concerning the library's trust funds, similar to an audit. It has been forwarded to the city attorney and finance departments to address. All trust funds are in order.
 - The Penacook branch is close to opening as the Boys and Girls Club has opened at the new site. The Penacook Library and Activity Center, which includes the new library branch, is near completion. Some final issues are being taken care of. All the old materials from the prior Penacook branch building are being inventoried and will be transferred. The library had hoped to be in the new space by now, but the process is not yet complete and the certificate of occupancy has not been issued yet.
 - The Heights branch has recently expanded its hours. The Heights branch is now open on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Saturdays for a total of 18 hours per week.

- Director Fabian reported that the library is close to being fully staffed as additional staff is being onboarded and the process will be complete by October. Director Fabian reported that there was a good applicant pool for recent part time positions.
- The Penacook branch will have additional evening hours as the Boys and Girls Club ends in the early evening. There is more parking in the new facility.
- In November, a decision may be made about what will happen with the old Penacook Library building.
- The library experienced record circulation in the main branch for both the number of patron visits and for items checked out. Any reduced use and circulation due to Covid 19 has more than recovered at this point. The library is busier than ever. It appears that patrons' habits have fully recovered from the Covid 19 pandemic era. The library is very busy with a lot of things for the staff to handle. The librarians' jobs are much more multifaceted than in the past. The increased difficulty in the job has made recruiting more difficult. The staff has done a good job with this transition. The children's summer reading programming was very successful with strong participation. The library has a good system in place to encourage participation in the program and has offered a lot of variety. For example, monthly films have been shown in the Auditorium and have had good participation so far to date. The library has provided free popcorn to movie goers, even running out quickly last time.
- For library card month (September), the library has been promoting the month-long event through social media. The Concord Public Library started the Granite

State Library Challenge 8 years ago. We won the first year, and have been competitive since although we have not won again. Staff has been out in the community doing outreach including from the children's department staff going to schools to promote the library.

- The funding for a possible new library courtyard has been shifted to the FY26 budget. The library's budget for next year included a new full-time position and more part time help. Long term, the library will continue to get busier and additional staffing requests are likely to be needed to keep up with the work.

4. The CPL Foundation Update

- The Foundation did not meet last month. They will meet in October.

5. New Business

- The Board of Trustees need new trustees. The Board is currently down 3 positions as of this meeting.

6. Old Business

- Accept minutes of the July 8, 2024 Monthly Meeting - J. Clemans motions to accept the minutes; Vice Chair C. O'Leary seconds; All in favor.

7. Next meeting: October 7, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. in the library's Blanchard Room.

8. C. Casco moved to adjourn the September monthly meeting, seconded by J. Clemans, and adopted by unanimous vote at 6:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted:

Chris Casco

September 9, 2024