



January 21, 2020 Minutes

The Newport News Public Library Board of Trustees met on January 21, 2020 at the Virgil I. Grissom Library.

Attending: K. Akins, R. Tench, T. Hammond, M. Frantz, D. Maahs, T. Wright, P. Mercier, W. Barbour, N. Felton, S. Baker; S. Alcántara-Antoine, A. Jennings, L. Blair, W. Bright, and C. Skeen representing the Library.

Absent: C. Samuels, L. Atkins, B. Dahlen, M. Keeling

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

Appointment of youth representatives

Newly appointed to the Board at the end of December, youth representatives gave brief introductions. S. Baker is a junior at Warwick High and N. Felton is a homeschooled sophomore.

Career Online High School – T. Blair and W. Bright, Computer Lab Specialists

T. Blair, of Pearl Bailey and W. Bright, of Grissom provided an overview presentation of the Career Online High School program recently launched on January 13, 2020. This is an accredited online high school program where Newport News residents, 19 years of age and older, have an opportunity to receive a scholarship and obtain a high school diploma. We have ten scholarships to offer, covering all courses and materials. Interested patrons must have a card in good standing and should complete an application online through the Research and Learn tab on our website. Those who meet the requirements will take an assessment followed by a prerequisite course. They will then be scheduled for a panel interview with our Library staff. Program offers career concentrations in Office Management, Food and Hospitality, Childcare and Education, Homeland Security and more. Students have 18 months to complete the program. NNPL serves as the point of contact between student and enrollment process. They will also have an academic coach who will monitor them throughout.

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Other public libraries in the area are also participating, such as Virginia Beach and Norfolk. We currently have 17 applicants. This was part of our commitment to CNI grant.

Approval of November 19, 2019 Minutes

Motion made to approve and seconded. Minutes were approved as presented.

Librarian's Report

Library Chapters – December and January

S. Antoine reviewed the December and January Library Chapters. Highlights included the Student Connect Card celebration with the preschoolers of Marshall Early Learning Center, which was covered by various local media outlets, the launch of streaming video services at the Library, and the overall increase in program attendance across all of our branches.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:59 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Salcantara".

Sonia Alcántara-Antoine, Director
Secretary, ex-officio

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