



Newport News Public Library

February 18, 2020 Minutes

The Newport News Public Library Board of Trustees met on February 18, 2020 in the Warwick Conference Room of the Administrative Office.

Attending: R. Tench, D. Maahs, P. Mercier, M. Frantz, T. Wright, B. Dahlen, T. Hammond, C. Samuels, N. Felton, S. Baker; S. Alcántara-Antoine, A. Jennings, and S. LoMonaco representing the Library.

Absent: K. Akins, L. Atkins, M. Keeling, W. Barbour

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

Approval of January 21, 2020 Minutes

D. Maahs made motion to approve. Motion was seconded by P. Mercier. Minutes were approved as presented.

Early Literacy Outreach – Shawna LoMonaco, ELO Coordinator

S. LoMonaco gave a presentation showing the significant strides Newport News Public Library has made with early literacy programs and various partnerships and the role she has played in growing these efforts. Prior to last year, NNPL was partnered with only two preschools. We are now partnered with 22 early literacy locations to include First Step, Head Start, as well as private preschools, and each receives a visit monthly from our ELO Coordinator. This averages out to a little over 1,000 children singing songs, reading, and/or listening to storytime each month. We also launched our first Books and Bubbles Early Literacy Center at a Soap n’ Suds in the Southeast community. We have only just begun our Library card distribution program with early learning centers and preschools in the City and are working to expand that this year.

Librarian’s Report

Library Chapters – February

S. Antoine reviewed the February Library Chapters. Highlights included Holds being

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES

700 Town Center Drive, Suite 300 | Newport News, VA 23606 | 757- 926-1350 | F 757-926-1365



allowed on video games, the expansion of our Notary Public services, launching of Career Online High School, and Professional Growth kudos to Lakisha White, our Innovation and User Experience Coordinator, for her Become a UX Designer from Scratch course certification.

The Libraries FY21 Budget requests were also reviewed. There was additional discussion regarding plans for the new Pearl Bailey and Grissom Library.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:45 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

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

Sonia Alcántara-Antoine, Director
Secretary, ex-officio

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES

700 Town Center Drive, Suite 300 | Newport News, VA 23606 | 757- 926-1350 | F 757-926-1365