

Newport Library Board Meeting Minutes  
May 20, 2009

Present: Carol Fisher, Terry Obteshka, Curt Fewkes, Sharon Beardsley, Chip Norman, Cindy McConnell, Ted Smith, Jeff Ingram (note-taker)

1. Meeting called to order at 5:15 pm.
2. Previous meeting's minutes were passed unanimously.
3. Social Networking Policy:

Smith announced to the board that the first posts to Newport Library's blog, "Salmagundi" were ready and he asked the board to officially adopt policies pertaining to blog use. The policies were copied from Multnomah County Library's blog policies and addressed such issues as purpose, definitions and public comment rules. The blog itself will address library programs, services and reviews. Fisher asked if the policies will be posted online. Smith answered that public will need to read policies before they can comment. Norman asked if content would be overseen by a blog master. Smith answered that all posts would be reviewed by at least one other staff member before posting. Fewkes asked if the public would be able to comment with images. Smith said that as long as images were within policy guidelines (i.e. on-topic, not spam, not obscene etc), images would be allowed and he repeated that all public comments would be moderated. Adoption of library's social networking policies was passed unanimously.
4. Outreach Services Policy:

Staff members Lynn Dennis and Kay Eldon asked Smith to add a section to the library's Outreach Services policy that stated that such services were restricted to homebound patrons only, i.e., patrons who were unable to physically visit the library. Fewkes asked that the policy be checked with city attorney's office first, since the new policy might have the effect of limiting service. The policy was unanimously passed pending legal review.
5. Librarian's Report:

Smith reported that Toledo High School's video production class would be creating a video of the Lincoln County Writing Awards for viewing on the library's homepage. Our web presence has also been expanded by the addition of Rebecca Cohen's book talks on KCUP onto our homepage, the library's FLICKR account, and now Salmagundi. The library has also begun using our new laptop PCs for weekly computer classes. McConnell asked where funds came from for the PCs. Smith responded that funds came from the city. Beardsley asked what the response to the computer classes was. Smith said that for some of the more popular classes, the library has had to turn people away. Smith also hoped to discuss with the foundation future priorities for funding, which would include purchase of an inexpensive video camera. Smith also commented on the very large increase in library usage statistics. Fewkes stressed the importance of advertising these stats. Fisher agreed and stated that numbers like these would be of use during the upcoming library district additional levy. Beardsley agreed that the stats were impressive.

McConnell noted the strength of Newport Library. Beardsley also wanted to thank the staff for the volunteer BBQ on the previous Sunday.

7. Meeting was adjourned at 5:40 pm.