

**NEWTON PUBLIC LIBRARY
REGULAR MONTHLY BOARD MEETING
APRIL 1, 2021
(MARCH MEETING POSTPONED)**

Call to Order: Juana McConnell at 4:03 PM

Board Members Present: Rita Baker, Juana McConnell and Darcy Soule (Jo Kono has resigned)

Also Present: Library Director Nicole Terry and City Council Liaison Mark Hallam

Agenda Approval: Moved by Baker, seconded by Soule and passed to approve the Agenda.

Minutes Approval: Moved by Baker, seconded by Soule and passed to approve the Minutes of the February 25, 2021 meeting.

Public Comments/Concerns: None.

Approval of Bills: Moved by Baker, seconded by Soule and passed to approve the payment of bills.

Library Financial Report: Terry explained that there will be expenditures for equipment, etc. due to the “catching up” process from COVID-19.

Long Range Plan: Terry indicated that staff evaluations will be completed in the upcoming week.

Library Director’s Report: In addition to the written report, Terry indicated that there have been 150 responses to date in response to the Library Survey. The library has been experiencing debilitating computer problems due to two (2) “competing” soft wares. The library’s contracted technology specialist noted that it is “the worst he has ever seen.”

NPL Foundation Report: No report.

Old Business:

- a. Regarding continued reopening from COVID-19, all staff are waiting to have received their first vaccine prior to additional moves in a forward direction.

New Business:

- a. There have been no bids received for landscaping. Terry is trying to generate interest from local companies. It may be necessary to use Newton Parks and Recreation services if an outside source is not contracted.
- b. Moved by Baker, seconded by Soule and passed to extend the date for Library Flat Roof RFQ/RFP Approval to May 26, 2021.
- c. Moved by Soule, seconded by Baker and passed to approve the Enrich, Direct State Aid & Interlibrary Loan Reimbursement Agreements.
- d. Moved by McConnell, seconded by Soule and passed to approve the BRIDGES/E-books Agreement.
- e. Moved by Soule, seconded by McConnell and passed to approve the Food for Fines dates. Terry indicated that there was a 24% increase in check-outs in the month of February, which almost brings the number back up to normal.

Agenda Items for Next Meeting Scheduled for April 22, 2021: The meeting will begin with an hour of training led by Maryann Mori followed by the regular meeting.

Adjournment: Moved by McConnell, seconded by Soule and passed to adjourn at 4:38 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Rita Baker, for Terry Townsend, Secretary