

**Middletown Public Library Board of Trustees**

**Minutes of Meeting – June 21, 2011**

**Middletown Public Library**

**700 West Main Road**

**Middletown, Rhode Island**

**Members Present: Paul LaMond, Chair; Steve Arendt, Vice-Chair; Lucie-Anne Dionne-Thomas; Sally Gauch; Ernest Gibbons; John Grisham; Ellrony Williams.**

**Members Absent: None.**

**Others Present: Theresa Coish, Library Director; Barbara VonVillas, Town Council Liaison; Sue Connor, Heather Huggins.**

**--Meeting called to order at 6:05 P.M. by Paul LaMond, Chair.**

**The Chair opened the meeting by paying tribute to recently-deceased former Trustee Joyce Morgenthaler, for her services to the Library. Chairman LaMond also expressed his thanks and appreciation to the Library staff and to fellow Board members for services rendered during a difficult budget year.**

**Disposition of Minutes:**

**--Minutes of May 17, 2011 meeting reviewed. Motion to accept: Gauch. Second: Dionne-Thomas. Unanimously carried.**

**Open call by Chair announcing Executive Session pursuant to RIGL 42-46-2, 42-46-4, 42-46-5(a)(1) (personnel matters) and 42-46-5(a)(2) (collective bargaining and/or litigation). Motion to enter executive session for stated purposes: Grisham. Second: Dionne-Thomas. Unanimously carried.**

**Executive session began at 6:16 P.M.**

**Regular session resumed at 6:48 P.M.**

**Motion to seal executive session minutes: Arendt. Second: LaMond. Unanimously carried.**

**Motion to approve executive session minutes of May 17, 2011: Gauch. Second: Dionne-Thomas. Unanimously carried.**

**Correspondence received:**

**-- None.**

**Director's report: Theresa Coish orally reviewed information. Motion to accept: Arendt. Second: Dionne-Thomas. Unanimously carried.**

## **Committee reports:**

**--Budget:** Steve Arendt reported that the Town Council has passed the FY2012 Library budget as submitted by the Board, with provision for reimbursement of \$25,000 previously cut from FY2011 funds. Further reductions going forward remain a possibility, due to the state budget crunch.

**--Contract Negotiations:** Tentative agreement reached following union negotiations (wage and health-care reopeners only). Motion to approve agreement as presented to Board: LaMond. Second: Gauch. Unanimously carried. Agreement signed by Board and union representatives.

**--Director's Evaluation:** Addressed in Executive Session.

**--Friends Liaison:** Theresa Coish reported that the Friends Board has budgeted \$1700.00 to cover expenses for the Summer Reading Program. The Friends' accounts with the Rhode Island Foundation have reportedly sustained losses in recent years, due to the economic downturn; however, the long-term outlook remains positive. The Friends' Bookstore remains a steady source of income.

**--Policy Review:** No report.

**Unfinished Business:**

**--Discussion re West Main/Coddington Center Master Plan following June 20 Town Hall workshop. Despite some apparent progress, many questions and contingencies remain, due to the long-range nature of the Plan. Another workshop is scheduled for June 22 at 6:00 P.M. in Town Hall.**

**New Business:**

**-- None.**

**Public presentation to, or discussion with the Board:**

**- No one asked to address the Board during this portion of the meeting.**

**Announcements:**

**-The next regularly scheduled Board meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 19, 2011 at 6:00 P.M. at the Library.**

**--Motion to adjourn: Gauch. Second: Dionne-Thomas. Unanimously carried.**

**Meeting adjourned at 7:30 P.M.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**John W. Grisham**

**Secretary**