

Middletown Public Library Board of Trustees

Minutes of Meeting – September 20, 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.

Disposition of Minutes:

--Minutes of August 16, 2011 meeting reviewed. Motion to accept: Dionne-Thomas. Second: Gauch. Unanimously carried.

Motion to approve executive session minutes of August 16, 2011: Dionne-Thomas. Second: Gauch. 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: No report.

--Contract Negotiations: No report.

--Director's Evaluation: No report.

--Friends Liaison: The Friends will be dedicating a gold leaf to longtime member and former Library Trustee Joyce Morgenthaler. Discussion re inscription, possible recommendation to Friends. To be discussed at next Friends meeting Sept. 21.

--Policy Review: No report.

Unfinished Business:

--Update re Capital Improvement projects:

- Director to meet with Arden Engineering re HVAC Energy Enhancement Project; Arden to meet with Engineering consultant re Horridge. Arden has a Master Price Agreement with the state.

- Column repairs: Accelerated deterioration and extensive water damage detected. Ten thousand dollars previously allocated to Capital Improvements budget to address the problem; an additional \$7,450 in surplus funds remains from last renovation. Motion to authorize use of surplus funds for project, as appropriate: Arendt. Second: LaMond. Unanimously carried. Director to keep Town officials informed on project status.

New Business:

--Election of officers and committee appointments

- Nomination of Paul Lamond as Chair: Grisham. Second: Dionne-Thomas. Unanimously carried.

- Nomination of Steve Arendt as Vice-Chair: LaMond. Second: Gauch. Unanimously carried.

- Nomination of John Grisham as Secretary: LaMond. Second: Williams. Unanimously carried.

The Chair then made the following committee appointments:

- Budget: Steve Arendt, Chair; Paul LaMond.**
- Contract Negotiations: Appointments deferred, pending receipt of union request for negotiations.**
- Director's Evaluation: Deferred.**
- Friends' Liaison: Deferred.**
- Policy Review: Paul LaMond, Chair; John Grisham.**

--Discussion re proposed revisions to job description for Full-Time Library Assistant (LAS6). Motion to adopt as amended: Grisham. Second: Dionne-Thomas. Unanimously carried.

--Follow-up discussion re solicitation of legislative proposals by Town Administrator from Library Board. Discussion re proposals by Director Theresa Coish pertaining to reimbursement from state (requiring 25 percent state aid to Libraries, reimbursement for new library projects and construction, and net-lender reimbursement).

-- Discussion re formation of standing Committee for Strategic Planning, to evaluate the evolving needs of the Library over the short- and long-term. To be followed up at next Board meeting.

Public presentation to, or discussion with the Board:

- Presentation by Director of tribute to Board Chair Paul LaMond on**

behalf of the Library staff, praising Mr. LaMond's leadership. A book will be added to the Library collection in Mr. Lamond's name.

Announcements:

-The next regularly scheduled Board meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 18, 2011 at 6:00 P.M. at the Library.

--Motion to adjourn: Arendt. Second: LaMond. Unanimously carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

**John W. Grisham
Secretary**