

Middletown Public Library Board of Trustees

Minutes of Meeting – March 19, 2013

Middletown Public Library

700 West Main Road

Middletown, Rhode Island

Members Present: Steve Arendt, Vice-Chair; Ellrony Williams; Lucie-Anne Dionne-Thomas; Sally Gauch; Susan Hester

Others Present: Theresa Coish, Library Director; Sue Connor; Candise Pruitt; Barbara VonVillas, Town Council liaison to the library.

Member Absent: Paul LaMond, Chair; Ernest Gibbons

--Meeting called to order at 6:05 P.M. by Steve Arendt, Vice-Chair.

Disposition of Minutes:

--Minutes of February 19, 2013 meeting reviewed. Motion to accept: Arendt Second: Hester. Unanimously carried.

Correspondence received: MLK Jr. Center thank you for contributions able to assist the center in providing over 113,000 meals; another thank you for items sent in an earlier month to MLK Jr. Center for donation of 360 non-perishable food items.

Director's progress and financial reports on the library: Theresa Coish orally reviewed information provided in her Director's Report. The new plans for the library do not appear to leave room for a community garden. Town has not committed to anything in the West Main/Coddington Development Center Master Plan so nothing is "carved in stone" as to library facility. Training will be given at library in basic computer skills. There will be an art exhibit in April. Theresa applied for grant for theatre interpretations of famous works. Literary interpretations will be for all ages: to begin with Alice in Wonderland for children; Anne Frank for teens; and one based on It's a Wonderful Life story for all. Theresa is hoping to launch a writers' group. Planning is on-going for summer programs including watercolor. Mr. Boksenbaum sent a worksheet for reporting of in-kind services but said it was the town's decision as to how to report. Theresa is looking into less expensive alternative to self-check-out. Appears RFID is the newest technology. It allows for a stack of books to be all checked out and desensitized at once. Express Lane is name of one of the more efficient programs for self-check. Some RI libraries have it. Buying software would be a cost-effective transitional tool. Champlin grant may cover everything and there may not be a need to use CIP money for new software. There was also discussion of whether security is cost-effective. And library has authority to hire an attorney for labor matters.

Motion to accept Director's Report: Arendt Second: Dionne-Thomas.

Unanimously carried.

Committee reports:

--Budget Committee: Steve Arendt distributed a report and discussed it. Big change in digital resources so increases there. Remainder of budget is pretty stable. An increase from \$1K to \$2K is being requested so Theresa can attend the ALA conference given changes anticipated in new library with West Main/Coddington Development.

Motion made: Dionne-Thomas Second: Elrony Williams Unanimously carried.

--Contract Negotiations: No report.

--Director's Evaluation: No report.

--Friends Liaison: The next meeting will be held on 20 March. The Friends' annual meeting and dinner, which was held on Friday March 1 at Portofino Restaurant on East Main Road, appears to have been very successful.

--Policy Review: No report.

Unfinished Business: Motion to appoint Daniel Kinder, Esq., who has moved to a new law firm, to address labor issues at library.

Motion made: Elrony Williams Second: Susan Hester Unanimously carried

Theresa shared a frame, matte and photo of Norman and Julia Hall which Paul LaMond obtained in anticipation of naming the meeting room for the Halls. All board members liked photo and frame.

New Business: None

Public presentation to or discussion with the Board: None

Announcements:

--The next regularly scheduled Board meeting will take place on Tuesday, April 16, 2013 at 6:00 P.M., at the Library.

**--Motion to adjourn: Dionne-Thomas Second: Hester
Unanimously carried**

Meeting adjourned at 7:55 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/

Lucie-Anne Dionne-Thomas

Secretary