

Middletown Public Library Board of Trustees

Minutes of Meeting – April 21, 2015

Middletown Public Library

700 West Main Road

Middletown, Rhode Island

Members Present: Steve Arendt, Chair; Ernest Gibbons; Lucie-Anne Dionne-Thomas; Susan Hester; Sally Gauch; Ellrony Williams; and Christine Bagley

Other(s) Present: Theresa Coish, Library Director; Sue Connor; Barbara VonVillas, Town Council liaison to the library

Member Absent: None

Other(s) Absent: Candise Pruitt

--Meeting called to order at 6:03 p.m. by Steve Arendt, Chair.

Disposition of Minutes:

--Minutes of March 17, 2015 meeting were reviewed. Motion to accept: Hester Second: Gibbons. Unanimously carried.

Enter executive session; return to open session at 7:11 p.m.

Motion to seal minutes of Executive Session: Gauch Second: Williams. Unanimously carried.

Correspondence received: Resignation of Ann Marie Chase effective June 18, 2015.

Motion made to accept resignation of Ms. Chase with regret. Arendt. Second: Dionne-Thomas. Unanimously carried.

Director's progress and financial reports on the library: Theresa Coish orally reviewed information provided in her Director's Report. The library survey will be kept live until May 2.

This week, Wed. is Earth Day and a Disney movie will be shown. On Thursday, Jim Garman will do soil testing. The self-check continues to be very popular. Also, the library lends more books than it borrows. AARP just completed its tax preparation assistance for the season. Six VDIs were recently installed.

Ron Williams circulated names of three new additional members to the long range planning committee and the meetings will be posted.

Motion to accept Director's Report: Gauch Second: Dionne-Thomas. Unanimously carried.

Steve Arendt noted that there is a need to establish priorities for

unexpended money created by vacancies.

Motion made to use unexpended money to deal with the duct work and cleaning first and then address unfunded pension liabilities. Dionne-Thomas. Second: Williams. Unanimously carried with one abstention.

Annual Grossman bequest: Stanley Grossman, a former library trustee, gave RI Foundation money at his death; \$4,640 is to be provided to the library director annually for operations of the library. There is a need to change FY-16 budget to reflect Grossman bequest.

Motion to amend proposed FY-16 budget to include Mr. Grossman's bequest. Hester. Second: Bagley. Unanimously carried.

Committee reports:

--Budget Committee: Susan Hester, Theresa Coish, and Steve Arendt presented budget April 20th to the Town Council and it was well-received. The Town Council expressed appreciation for the director and her staff.

--Contract Negotiations: No report. Focus at the moment is to insure all necessary paperwork is signed.

--Director's Evaluation: No report.

--Friends Liaison: Started new year in April of 2015.

--Long Range Planning: Next meeting scheduled May 4; survey will be taken into consideration.

--Policy Review: No report. Work to be done but there is a need to prioritize policies that need to be addressed.

Unfinished Business: Town Solicitor's decision regarding letter of agreement for use of building space for Friends Bookstore is still pending.

New Business: Christine Bagley was sworn in as a new library trustee April 21, 2015.

Public presentation to or discussion with the Board: None.

Sue Connor, a Union co-president, had no additional information.

Announcements:

--The next regularly scheduled Board meeting will take place on Tuesday, May 19, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. at the Library.

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/

Lucie-Anne Dionne-Thomas

Secretary