

Middletown Public Library Board of Trustees

Minutes of Meeting – April 18, 2017

Middletown Public Library

700 West Main Road

Middletown, Rhode Island

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

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

Members Absent: None

--Meeting called to order at 6:09 p.m. by Steve Arendt, Chair.

Disposition of Minutes:

Motion to accept minutes of March 21, 2017 meeting: Williams.

Second: Bagley. Unanimously carried.

Correspondence received: None.

Director's progress and financial reports on the library: Theresa Coish orally reviewed information provided in her Director's Report.

Item not in her report: Theresa had a visit from Mr. Mike Christensen who provided pictures of Voigt Farm (he is related to the Voigt family) which at one time was on site of current library.

There was a general discussion about establishing an endowment through the RI Foundation. Not yet a clear path ahead; the board will consider further and come to any possible conclusions at a later date.

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

New Business: None

Committee reports:

--Budget Committee: FY18 budget was presented to the Town Council (TC) on April 17, 2017 with great enthusiasm from the TC. The TC took no action that evening. The TC will be holding 2 public hearings before voting on the budget. There was a discussion on how to spend year-end surplus money.

The Director noted for consideration some items including the possible purchase of 12 new computers; a new 3-D printer; subscriptions to additional digital resources and products that give

online classes.

Motion was made to authorize the Director and her staff to explore improvements to the work environment (including safety and security ones) for use of end of year surplus money before designating the remainder to the unfunded pension liability. Dionne-Thomas. Second: Gibbons. Unanimously carried.

The board will review “wish list” at its next meeting and account for suggestions.

--Director’s Evaluation: None.

--Friends Liaison: Next meeting of the Friends will be held on April 19, 2017.

--Policy Review: None.

Unfinished Business: Proposal from Dr. Jones:

On April 23, 2017, Dr. Jones will conduct a musical presentation at the library at 3:00 p.m. It is expected that there will be follow-up sessions on later dates.

New Business: None.

Public presentation to or discussion with the Board: None.

Announcements:

--The next regularly scheduled Board meeting will take place on Tuesday, May 16, 2017 at 6:00 P.M. at the Library.

Motion to Adjourn: Dionne-Thomas. Second: Williams. Unanimously carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:43 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/

Lucie-Anne Dionne-Thomas

Secretary