

Middletown Public Library Board of Trustees

Minutes of Meeting – August 15, 2017

Middletown Public Library

700 West Main Road

Middletown, Rhode Island

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

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

Members Absent: Ernest Gibbons

Others Absent: Sue Connor

--Meeting called to order at 6:05 p.m. by Steve Arendt, Chair.

Enter executive session; return to open session at 7:07 p.m.

Motion to seal the minutes of the executive session which occurred on June 20, 2017: Hester. Second: Williams. Unanimously carried.

Motion to seal the minutes of the executive session: Gauch Second: Bagley. Unanimously carried.

Disposition of Minutes:

Motion to accept minutes of June 20, 2017 meeting as amended: Hester. Second: Williams. Unanimously carried.

Correspondence received: Volunteer Appreciation Dinner will take place at beach August 21, 2017 before the Town Council meeting. Thanks from MLK Center in a letter dated July 10, 2017 for 144 lbs. of non-perishable food. Solicitation for Middletown Public Library to be a member of New Bedford Whaling Museum; due to fiscal rules, this invitation may not be accepted. Christine Bagley submitted a letter indicating she will not renew her participation as a member of the board effective September 1, 2017.

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

Motion to accept Director's Report: Gauch second: Bagley Unanimously carried.

New Business: None.

Committee reports:

--Budget Committee: None.

--Director's Evaluation: Completed.

--Friends Liaison: The two-week long book sale netted over \$800. Next meeting of the Friends will be held on August 16, 2017. Friends have been maintaining an outside storage. Theresa and Lois will meet next week to discuss managing donations. They will also discuss bundling and selling the Joe Matose note cards and prints for the benefit of the Friends. Rosemary Day's family is preparing to sell her home and they want to donate books and prints; Theresa visited and assumed custody of some items including a ceramic piece that is currently on the circulation desk.

--Policy Review: In executive session, revisions to Section III of the Library Employee Handbook were reviewed and discussed.

Unfinished Business: Proposal from Dr. Jones: Dr. Jones is seeking a commitment from the town with regard to his bequeath at his demise. His bequest would involve construction of a recital hall. Dr. Jones has contacted Peter Regan, Town Attorney; according to Dr. Jones, Mr. Regan will be contacting Theresa Coish. Board discussed the possibility of Dr. Jones's and his attorney setting up a foundation to address his donation interests which include musical instruments and Dr. Jones's interest in placing his home in trust to the library. It was the consensus of the board that the town not the library board would need to address this matter.

New Business: None.

Public presentation to or discussion with the Board: None.

Announcements:

--The next regularly scheduled Board meeting will take place on Tuesday, September 19, 2017 at 6:00 P.M. at the Library.

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:01 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/

Lucie-Anne Dionne-Thomas

Secretary