



## Friends of the Middleton Public Library

Dear Middleton Library Board Members,

### **Board of Directors**

#### **President**

*Karen Natoli*

#### **Secretary**

*Mike Lutz*

#### **Treasurer**

*Davis McGuffey*

#### **Member-At-Large**

*Amy Gugerty*

*Linda Yu*

*David Reed*

#### **Library Staff**

#### **Representative**

*Patrick Williams*

#### **Library Director**

*Pamela K. Westby*

The Friends of the Middleton Public Library is a group with members from the city and surrounding areas who work to enhance and improve library services. We are the primary provider of funding for library programming and consistently fund \$30,000-40,000 annually for library programming. We help the library make a difference to our community by:

- Sponsoring of Award winning programming for all ages.
- Seeding innovations that the library budget can't always provide.
- Enhancing our Library collections (books, compact discs, and movies on DVDs).
- Providing for lively cultural events, presentations of special topics, author visits, guest speakers and children's performers that attract residents to our library.
- Supporting computer and other equipment enhancements that support a multitude of users needs.

Clearly, the Friends organization is an integral part of the Middleton library and it's continued excellence. As such, we would like to express our space needs as they relates to the library's future building plans. In the immediate future, 2015, the Friends organization would like to see no reduction in the current spaces we use including the book sorting room, the book sale room and the book collection bin in the front entry. The Friends Board would support any expansion to these current spaces especially to enhance the book/library store concept and/or coffee shop and book shop model. We also support the need for no reduction in the current programming spaces such as the Archer room and would support any expansion of spaces for library programming. The Board also supports the use of library space during "off hours" to host major fundraising events such as performances or other fundraising events.

As we look to the future, the Friends Board would anticipate in the next 20 years to still strive to provide the majority of funding for library programming. It is our opinion that book sales will continue to be a source of income but we may also seek revenue through a coffee shop/ library store and perhaps through the rental of e-reading devices and sales of downloads of media to e-reading devices. Sales like these will allow for increased opportunity to sustain funding for library programming and make books affordable to those who want to purchase them. Therefore, spaces to sort, store and sell books and other items will still be a necessity. In addition, spaces for programming will still be needed and in formats that support flexible layouts and usage of the rooms. Finally, spaces for performances and other fundraising events will be needed to allow the Friends organization to host these revenue generating functions.

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Thank you for your consideration of the Friends in your future building plans for the library, Sincerely, Friends of the Middleton Public Library Board of Directors