



Middleton Public Library Board Meeting Minutes November 12, 2019

The meeting was called to order by Courtney Ward-Reichard at 5:35 pm

Present: Robert Burck, MaryBeth Paulisse, Rose Sime, Roshelle Ritzenthaler, Robert Seltzer, Courtney Ward-Reichard, Tom Yost, Cindy Zellers, Library Director Jocelyne Sansing, Chris Morris, Administrative Librarian Rebecca Light and Youth Services Librarian Kelsey Hudson.

Absent: None

1. Public Comments

Ms. Sime commented on behalf of a community member wondering if Next Chapter contributions are tax deductible. Ms. Sansing confirmed that contributions are tax deductible, and she directed the community member to the website and the printable donate form located here:
<https://www.midlibrary.org/NextChapter-Donate>

2. Staff Presentation – Youth Services Librarian, Katie Ganser

Ms. Ganser introduced herself to the board as the Youth Service Librarian specializing in ages 0-8. Over the coming winter months, Ms. Ganser is putting an increased focus on active programming, STEM programs for school age children, and all-ages collaborative programs such as Art Week during spring break for babies to adults.

Ms. Sansing shared that the new 'Youth Services' title reflects a more collaborative approach to working with children and youth.

3. Approval of Minutes of the October 8th Library Board meeting (action item)

Motion to approve by Ms. Ward-Reichard, second by Mr. Seltzer. Motion passed unanimously.

4. Approval of October Vendor Report (action item)

In the Vendor Report, Ms. Light highlighted expenditures under Training and Development for upcoming staff conferences and expenditures for the Next Chapter project. All other disbursements are typical.

The board and staff are grateful for the generous donations given in memory of Mary Podell.

In September, Next Chapter received \$7,462 in donations. To date, Next Chapter has received nearly \$45,000—all from individual donors.

Motion to approve the October Vendor Report by Mr. Seltzer, second by Ms. Zellers. Motion passed unanimously.

5. Old Business

a. Strategic Planning for Trustees (discussion)

Ms. Sansing shared the goals in the current strategic plan, highlighting two in particular: Goal #5: Communication – Sharing the Library Message, and Goal #6: Organizational Health – Create a Place Where People Want to Give & Be. The board discussed potential activities that the trustees could undertake to support the Library as we work towards these strategic goals and work towards a more visible, approachable presence at library and community programs.

6. Committee Updates

- a. Building – on hiatus during Next Chapter phasing
- b. Development

The Development Committee is building momentum with the Next Chapter campaign, including some outreach events such as a pop-up at a local coffee shop. Ms. Sansing noted that there is some interest in naming rights for the Main Level Art Gallery, and the Lower Level History Room.

7. Liaison Updates

a. City Council

Mr. Burck noted that the 2020 City Budget is largely finalized and will be open to public input. Mr. Burck noted that December 3rd, 2019 is the next City Council Meeting.

b. Friends – Gift Agreement (action item)

The President of the Friends of the Middleton Public Library, Karen Natoli, announced a donation of \$30,000 to the Next Chapter Campaign. The donation includes naming rights to the new lower level programming room. A possible suggestion for the name of the lower level programming room is: "Friends Community Room". Ms. Natoli noted that The Friends will continue to support The Next Chapter Project. The Board expressed their deep appreciation for this donation.

Motion to approve the Gift Agreement by Mr. Yost, second by Ms. Sime. Motion passed unanimously.

c. Friends – Liaison (discussion)

Mr. Morris announced that he is the new Friends Liaison, and he is working to further define this role with Ms. Sansing and Ms. Natoli.

d. MCPASD

Ms. Paulisse shared that the MCPASD Boundary Committee is recommending changes to the MCPASD Board.

e. Community

Ms. Sansing noted that the Community Campus project is exploring three options for massing, blocking and stacking for civic functions and parking. A public presentation will be shared on December 3rd, 2019.

8. Director's Update/ Library Board Report Review

Ms. Sansing noted that the remainder of the year will be focused on the strategic planning and staffing structure, beginning with training & development.

Ms. Sansing expects to share a preview of the 2020 budget at the December 2019 Meeting, for formal approval expected at the January 2020 Board Meeting.

Ms. Sansing also shared an early stage project to advance Health and Equity for the City of Middleton, and how the library can play a role in long-term change.

9. New Business

None

10. Next Meeting: December 10th, 2019 5:30 p.m.

11. Adjourn (action item)

Motion by Mr. Seltzer, second by Ms. Paulisse. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:07 p.m.