MIDDLETON PUBLIC LIBRARY

Library Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes

August 11, 2026 5:30 p.m.

Friends of the Library Community Meeting Room

Minutes Prepared and Submitted by M. Paulisse

Attendees: R. Crow, S. Moritz, M. Paulisse, M. Bechtol, R. Seltzer, L. Mindlin, C. Anderson, B. Wakeham, R. Kamal

Library Staff: J. Sansing, R. Light

Not Present:

The meeting was called to order by S. Moritz at 5:30 p.m.

1. **Public comment**
    a. Gurdip Brar, 1312 Sweeney Drive, spoke about the library, comparisons to other Dane County Libraries, and considerations about the future of libraries.

2. **Approval of the Minutes from the July 14, 2026 Library Board meeting**
    a. A motion to approve the minutes was made by R. Seltzer, seconded by C. Anderson. Motion passed unanimously

3. **Approval of the Minutes from the July 28, 2026 Library Board meeting**
    a. A motion to approve the minutes was made by M. Bechtol, seconded by L. Mindlin. Motion passed unanimously

4. **Approval of the July 2026 Vendor Report and Financial Review of Operations, Gifts and Donations (action)**
    a. R. Light gave an overview of the Vendor Report.
    b. A motion to approve the vendor report was made by C. Anderson, seconded by R. Kamal. Motion passed unanimously.
    c. J. Sansing gave an overview of Gift and Donation accounts.
    d. Director Sansing reviewed the status of the library budget operational accounts and highlighted the current year-to-date status.

5. **Approval of the 2027 Library Budget Recommendation to City of Middleton Common Council (discussion/action)**
    a. J. Sansing gave an overview of the budget planning workbook, which showed the library budget for the last four years and the proposed budget for 2027.

b. The increase recommended for the 2027 budget is very modest. The change in the 2027 budget from the 2026 budget is 0.5%.
c. A motion to approve the 2027 Library Budget Recommendation was made by R. Seltzer, seconded by B. Wakeham. Motion passed unanimously.

6. **Approval of Amendments to Middleton Public Library Board Bylaws (discussion/action)**
   a. S. Moritz presented a draft of updates for Article IV: Meetings of the bylaws.
   b. A motion to approve the amendments to the Middleton Public Library Board bylaws was made by M. Bechtol, seconded by R. Kamal. Motion passed unanimously.

7. **Development Committee (discussion/action)**
   a. M. Bechtol shared a bequest in process to the Middleton Public Library from Cecilia "Bonnie" Ackerman.
   b. J. Sansing shared that the library has received two other donations: Marie Wunsch donated $1,000.00, and Heather Peters donated $1,000.00.
   c. A motion to deposit the $1,000.00 donation from Marie Wunsch to the South Central Library System Foundation account was made by M. Paulisse, seconded by C. Anderson. Motion passed unanimously.
   d. A motion to deposit the $1,000.00 donation from Heather Peters to the South Central Library System Foundation account was made by R. Kamal, seconded by L. Mindlin. Motion passed unanimously..

8. **Community Campus**
   a. **Executive Steering Team members be empowered to make minor modifications to Agreements after Library Board of Trustees approval (discussion/action)**
      i. The trustees discussed the desire to have the Executive Steering Team to have the authority to make minor modifications to agreements after Trustee approval, so as not to delay the project progress by requiring approval at monthly meetings.
      ii. A motion to approve the authority of the Executive Steering Team to make minor modifications to agreements after Library Board of Trustees approval was made by R. Crow, seconded by L. Mindlin. Motion passed unanimously.
   b. **Approval of RFP for Project Manager (discussion/action)**
      i. B. Wakeham and S. Moritz gave a brief overview of the role of the Project Manager and the scope of the RFP.
      ii. A motion to approve the RFP for Project Manager was made by R. Crow, seconded by C. Anderson. Motion passed unanimously.

9. **Goals Review and Annual Calendar**
   a. **Policy Review**
      i. There were no policies for review this month.
      ii. Bylaws will be reviewed in September.
      iii. L. Mindlin and R. Kamal will continue to review the policies and make recommendations.
   b. **Trustee Training Week**

i. C. Anderson and R. Seltzer will continue to look for opportunities for trustee training.
ii. Trustees who were able to participate in the first two sessions of Trustee Training Week shared a few highlights about the Library Law and AI and Libraries sessions.

c. **Library Event Volunteers for August, September, October**
i. Good Neighbor Festival Parade (August 30, 2026). Trustees, Friends, and others are invited to walk in the parade with the Library staff and Bookmobile.
ii. Trustees are invited to volunteer for the WayForward backpack giveaway on August 20.
iii. Trustees are invited to volunteer for the Renfaire.

d. **Form Committee for November Retreat**
i. Trustees volunteered for the planning retreat team. S. Moritz, C. Anderson, and M. Bechtol volunteered to be on the team. C. Anderson will chair the committee.

10. **Monthly Road Map/Director's Report**
a. J. Sansing reviewed the monthly report. Director Sansing and R. Light highlighted the many events from July and foreshadowed exciting opportunities for the rest of August and September.

11. **New Business**
a. B. Wakeham requested the topic of Space Programming and Utilization for an upcoming agenda. It was decided that the topic would be best for a subgroup down the road once the Community Campus project is further along.

12. **Next meeting: September 8, 2026 at 5:30 p.m.**

13. **Adjourn**
a. The meeting was adjourned by S. Moritz at 7:10 p.m.