

FARMINGTON LIBRARIES  
SINCE 1901  
Service Beyond Expectations

Maureen Bittner  
Secretary

**Library Board Minutes**  
**February 15, 2017**

**Attendees:** Alan Sherman, Allison deVaux, Maureen Bittner, John Teahan, Jadwiga Gocłowski, May Munson, Gary Palumbo, Ida Franklin, Caroline Ford, Mike Gursky, Jay Johnston

**Absent:** C. J. Thomas, Peter Bartucca, Michael Clark, Lori Yu, Jorie Andrews,

**Quorum:** The meeting convened at 7:05 PM and a quorum was determined. Alan welcomed FVGLA President, Mike Gursky and Caroline Ford, Dir., Lending/Collection Management and Network Services. Alan further remarked that attendance is important for the Board to achieve its FY-17 goals.

**Approval of Minutes:** The minutes of the January 18<sup>th</sup> meeting were reviewed and unanimously approved.

**Metrics:** Metrics were reviewed and are within expected ranges.

**Chair's Report:** Alan adjusted the agenda for an update to the Long Range Plan with Caroline Ford, Director, Lending, Collection Management and Network Services. Caroline reported on the survey data and collection methods currently being used including on-line, tablet, and pen and paper instruments. She then presented profiles of our library and those of others chosen to be benchmarks as we compare ourselves in a variety of performance categories. The results of her study were consistent with previous analyses where Farmington stands at twice the state average for lending materials and high in all other metric categories.

Alan tested the Board's interest in additional programs and genres that might provide an additional programmatic pull, while further discussion ensued regarding data collection and the evaluation of the gathered comparative data. Alan had previously requested the Library Team to develop a "wish list" of items beyond the scope of the current budget's capabilities. The Team's responses included: Computer Lab reconfiguration, greater team learning opportunities, additional interests emerged from the Board regarding the implementation of Collection HQ, a cyborg or artificial intelligence module, designed to evaluate reading patterns of the library's users to predict the best selections for new acquisitions, based on a sophisticated algorithm. John Teahan then suggested repurposing a section of Collection Management, into two conference rooms by partitioning the South side of the space to increase needed private meeting rooms.

Alan next proposed a program of multigenerational gatherings on pertinent thought provoking topics to evoke thoughtful exchange and good fellowship. Further discussion involved the question of a focus group's importance and its execution regarding categories of individuals to be interviewed. If we are to hold two focus groups, one should consist of high school teens and the other of representatives of various town services.

**Executive Director's Report:**

Jay reported while the Board voted and approved a modified budget to accommodate a successful FY- 2018 program at 2.7% increase.

**Farmington Room Report:** John Teahan reported a successful meeting he had with Laura Horn, Director, Information Services and Sarah Mias, information Services Assistant regarding the collection and implementation of BiblioBoard in the production of podcasts and recordings of current history through the stories of our residents. John was very excited by the potential possibilities of the project and praised both Laura and Sarah

**Friends:** Jadwiga reminded the Board of the Spring Book Sale and distributed posters and bookmarks.

**Art Committee:** May reported that all items, included in the prior appraisal, have been located with the exception of those not on the appraisal list. In her conversation with Andy Baron she discovered that his inventory combined the items he physically located along with items that were added from Regina Madigan's report. May reported that she could not verify the location of some of these latter items. It appears that these items have been deaccessioned without notation and will be reviewed and adjusted in the final phase of May's work.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Maureen Bittner, Secretary