

FARMINGTON LIBRARIES
SINCE 1901
Service Beyond Expectations

Maureen Bittner
Secretary

**Library Board Minutes
November 16, 2016**

Attendees to November 16th meeting: Alan Sherman, May Munson, Gary Palumbo, Peter Bartucca, Lori Yu, Michael Clark, Jorie Andrews, Jadwiga Gocłowski, Caroline Ford, Sarah K. Morgan, Jay Johnston

Absent: Allison deVaux, Maureen Bittner, John Teahan, C. J. Thomas, Ida Franklin,

Quorum: The meeting convened at 7:06 PM and a quorum was determined.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the October 19th, 2016 meeting were reviewed and unanimously approved.

Metrics/Budget: Metrics and budget were reviewed and are within expected ranges.

FY-2018 Budget Review: Jay presented the FY-18 budget to the Board noting three unanticipated structural increases: \$20,000 health insurance, \$13,000 pension, \$5,500 data transmission. The net \$39,092 result asks for a 3.9% increase that is 0.9% above our target. Jay will submit the budget as approved. (Unanimously approved)

Chair's Report: Alan Sherman noted that Jay Johnston is now a member of the Strategic Plan Committee joining Alan, Jadwiga Gocłowski, and Sarah K. Morgan. Alan further remarked on the progress of the Strategic Plan Committee's November meeting. In his remarks, Alan noted that the condition of the Libraries is very different today than it was twelve years ago where the specific tactical problems pointed out in the 05-06 plans have been remedied, and our libraries are in good shape. He further remarked on the dynamic environment we are now navigating and how the new plan will be necessarily an effective three-year instrument understanding that tactical adjustments may be necessary to accomplish the strategic goals. A lively discussion ensued regarding benchmarking, focus groups, surveys, SWOT (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats) analysis, and big data comparisons. Mike Clark remarked on the value of comparative performance data. Jay cautioned about relying on comparative data about libraries, as performance quality is not necessarily measurable quantitatively. Sarah remarked that the State Library collects a broad range of data, and that she and Caroline will report at the December meeting about quantitative measures the Board may review. Alan questioned whether we had current data to support Jay's assertions regarding Farmington's demographic characteristics that could skew the reliability of data comparison between similarly populated communities. Caroline remarked that she enjoyed sifting through data and would report further on the demographics. Mike requested a structure and definition of the various Board participation