

**Board of Trustees
Ilsley Public Library
Wednesday, March 16, 2016.
Community Room, Ilsley Library
Minutes**

Board members in attendance:

Catherine Nichols, Rebekah Irwin, Chris Watters, John Freidin, Skylar Atkins.

Also in attendance: Kevin Unrath, Director.

Meeting commenced at 8:07 am.

Welcome New Board Member – Catherine Nichols, retired Rector of the St. Stephen’s Church and East Middlebury resident (in the Sarah Partridge house!) was welcomed to the board.

Maria Graham, outgoing board chair, was thanked for her fine service over the last five years.

Election of Board Chair – Mr. Freidin nominated Ms. Irwin as president, seconded by Mr. Watters and unanimously approved.

Public & Board Comments – Ms. Graham relayed that she is open to continuing service on the MCTV Board and Building Committees, but would like the board to consider other representatives. Mr. Watters requested information on how we’re spending income from the Hicks and Alta Gracia funds, which Mr. Unrath will research and provide further information via email.

Approval of January 2016 minutes - approved as submitted.

New Business: Jim Gish, railroad bridge project community liaison – update on railroad bridge project. Will be a 2 ½ to 3 year project. Mr. Gish’s role is to provide information to Middlebury residents, to provide VTrans with feedback and to maintain community vitality. He reports to the local project management committee. Town’s goals are public safety, keeping Middlebury open for business and preserving unique character of our town. \$40 million project, mostly federal, with \$500,000 contribution from town to create tunnel near St. Stephen’s.

Timeline: both bridges starting April 2017, but will be one bridge at a time. New drainage system installation near Printer’s Alley in Fall 2017. ACTR stop will be relocated, possibly to S. Pleasant Street. The project will include a temporary modular parking garage, either in the Mill St. lot or the lower lot behind Ilsley. 2018 work will be to finish rails at either end of downtown. Two 10 hour work shifts will be in place Monday-Friday, with construction ending Friday at 5pm so there will be a weekend break. More info will be available at www.middleburybridges.org .

Amtrak station possibility in 2018, with Middlebury and Vergennes selected as stations between Rutland and Burlington.

Mr. Gish also mentioned college meeting to look at park design plans March 21, 5:30pm at Twilight Hall.

Mr. Unrath asked for approval to continue working on a compensation study for all Ilsley Library employees, which he will present at the board's May meeting. The board approved moving forward with the compensation study.

Old Business

--*Building committee updates* – discussion of continued service by Ms. Graham on building committee, with determination that the board will ask Ms. Graham to continue serving (Note: Ms. Graham has agreed to continue serving in this capacity). The committee has completed an RFQ and is moving forward with four firms to ask for an RFP moving forward.

--*Strategic planning* – will look at in-depth at May meeting, with goal to cut down longer document.

Scheduling of Next Meeting – May 18th at 8 am.

Meeting adjourned at 9:21 am.

Respectfully Submitted,
Kevin Unrath