



TOWN OF MIDDLEBURY

Library Board of Trustees

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, March 12, 2024 - 4:30 P.M.

Present: Rita H. Smith – Chairman
Diane Giuditta
John Moriarty
Peter Vaccarelli
Meg Vance
Mary Veillette

Also Present: Jo-Ann LoRusso, Library Director
Patricia Lindenman, Resident
Tracy Graziano, Recording Clerk

1. Call to Order

Rita Smith called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance at 4:30 P.M.

2. Attendance

3. Approval of January 9, 2024 Meeting Minutes

Mary Veillette made a MOTION to APPROVE the January 9, 2024 meeting minutes. Diane Giuditta SECONDED and the MOTION was unanimously APPROVED.

4. Trustee Reports

• **Treasurer's Report**

Treasurer Mary Veillette reported no activity from January to February; the fund balance remains at \$25,199.55 (see Appendix 4.a.).

Diane Giuditta made a MOTION to APPROVE the Treasurer's Report. John Moriarty SECONDED and the MOTION was unanimously APPROVED.

• **Secretary's Report**

Secretary Diane Giuditta shared three correspondences (see Appendix 4.b.):

1. A "Thank you" email from Stephanie Robinson, Media Specialist, MES to MES Staff members, PTO members, and Jo-Ann LoRusso for their participation and contributions to the success of the MES Family Reading Night conducted at the Middlebury Library.
2. A "Thank you" email from Dianne at Osher Lifelong Learning Institute expressing her appreciation to Jo-Ann LoRusso for hospitality and support of OLLI and their mission.
3. A "Thank you" email from Linda Zukauskas thanking the Middlebury Library for the loan of books she borrowed to read to students at Children's Community School of Waterbury during a United Way of Greater Waterbury's reading event.

Meg Vance made a MOTION to APPROVE the Secretary's Report. Mary Veillette SECONDED and the MOTION was unanimously APPROVED.

5. Director's Report

Director Lorusso distributed copies of the Director's Report (see Appendix 5.a.) including January's statistics as the February meeting was cancelled due to inclement weather and a calendar of March events.

Director LoRusso discussed the library's continued efforts to maintain community outreach. The Westover School Art Exhibit was well attended and they are in the planning stages for future displays.

The library will be partnering with the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute to offer some nice courses in the areas of history, the arts, agriculture and gardening to adults 50+ at no charge. A photography snippet is being offered in April.

The Region 15 Family Reading Night was a great success. The first grade License to Read event is scheduled for May. The first graders get their own library card and will learn how to look for books and sign them out. The Preschool on the Green students are coming for a field trip on April 5th. April is "Love Your Library" month and the staff has designed a cute flyer (see Appendix 5.b.) detailing the benefits of a library card, including the free and discounted museum program.

The Library has picked a theme for their summer reading program, Director LoRusso will share it at the April meeting.

John Moriarty made a MOTION to APPROVE the Treasurer's Report. Mary Veillette SECONDED and the MOTION was unanimously APPROVED.

6. Old Business

None

7. New Business

None

8. Public Comment

Patricia Lindenman, Resident
299 Mirey Dam Road

Ms. Lindenman is a volunteer tutor for Region 15. She came before the Board to request permission to utilize study rooms in the library for tutoring purposes. The library's study room policy states that, "Each room has the capacity for one patron". Director LoRusso stated that one of the reasons for this policy is that paid tutors were signing out the rooms for use to tutor paying clients, which is against library policy. She explained that the library staff does not have the resources to monitor who is using the rooms and for what purpose. She further explained that extra communal tables were added to the main area of the library to accommodate patrons receiving extra help. Ms. Lindenman asked the Board to reconsider. Board Chairman Rita Smith said she will add it to the April agenda for further discussion.

9. Adjournment

Mary Veillette made a MOTION to adjourn. Meg Vance SECONDED and the MOTION was unanimously APPROVED. Meeting was adjourned at 4:57pm.

These minutes are respectfully submitted subject to approval.
Tracy Graziano Recording Clerk

Attachments

Cc: Library Board of
Trustees Library
Director
Town Clerk

TREASURER'S REPORT

Appendix 4.a.

TO: Middlebury Public Library Board of Trustees

FROM: Mary C. Veillette, Treasurer

DATE: March 12, 2024

RE: Report for the period January 1, 2024 through
February 29, 2024

There were no changes in the Brick Sales and Room Naming Opportunities accounts during the period January 1, 2024 through February 29, 2024.

Total Brick Sales to date: \$55,435.00

Total Expenses to date: \$30,235.45

Balance in Fund 61 – Brick Sales and Room Naming Opportunities
account: \$25,199.55

Respectfully,

Mary C. Veillette, Treasurer

From: Stephanie Robinson <srobinson@region15.org>
Sent: Tuesday, March 5, 2024 12:05 PM
To: MESSTAFF; Ncy Ward; JoAnn Lorusso; MES PTO
Subject: Family Reading Night- THANKS!

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe. Email support@computercompany.net if you doubt the validity of this email.

Dear MES Staff, PTO, and Jo-Ann,

Thanks so much to everyone that was able to come out and help make the MES Family Reading Night such a success. It was fabulous to see almost 200 kids and families at the event having fun creating bookmarks, listening to stories, picking out books, and of course, taking pictures with Jasper Rabbit. The Middlebury Library was a beautiful location for such a fun night of reading festivities. Thanks to all that were able to help out.

I appreciate your time and efforts. I know it is a busy time of year. :)

Have a great day-
Stephanie

--

Stephanie Robinson
Media Specialist
Middlebury Elementary School
203-758-2401
[@mrsrobinson229](#)
[Fairday's Book Blog](#)

I'm reading:

The Girl You Left Behind by JoJo Moyes
Dust by Dusti Bowling

I've recently finished reading:

Our Missing Hearts by Celeste Ng
Spare by Prince Harry
I've Got Your Number by Sophie Kinsella
The Puppets of Spelhorst by Kate DiCamillo

What are you reading?

4.b. Conf'd.

JoAnn Lorusso

From: Gnybakken <gnybakken@comcast.net>
Sent: Friday, February 16, 2024 8:19 AM
To: JoAnn Lorusso
Subject: OLLI

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe. Email support@computercompany.net if you doubt the validity of this email.

Good morning JoAnn,
Sorry for the delay in writing but I've been a little under the weather this past week .
Thank you so much for your wonderful hospitality and your support of OLLI and our mission..
Although attendance was small we had one person enroll on site and others may join..
The library is so fortunate to have you as Director.. and we are so fortunate to have you as an ally..
The room was perfect and everything went smoothly..
I have contacted Tim Padgett to communicate with you directly regarding the April exhibit and that I would be delighted to assist in any way needed..
Again, thank you so much for your assistance and support. My hope is that we can work together again in the future .
Dianne

Sent from my iPhone



4.b. con'd.

**Linda Zukauskas**

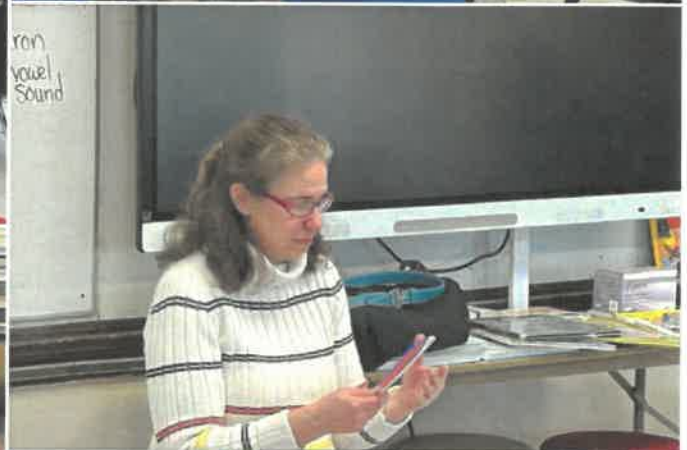
16h · 🌐

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Had a blast reading to the kids at [Children's Community School, Waterbury, CT](#) today. Thanks to the [Middlebury Public Library](#) for loaning me some cool books!

The students surprised me with a lot of thank you cards that they'd made. Now they're displayed on my fridge!

If you want some fun, volunteer to read through the [United Way of Greater Waterbury's](#) reading events this coming March!



42

9 comments 1 share

Appendix 5.a.

To: Middlebury Public Library Board of Trustees

From: Jo-Ann LoRusso, Library Director

RE: Director's Report

March 12, 2023

Statistics for January 2024 and February 2024

(chart)

Calendar of March Events

(calendar)

Community Engagement

Westover Art Exhibition

Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLIE) Library Partnership

Region 15: MES Family Read Event

MES First Grade Library Card Field Trip

Preschool on the Green Field Trip

Middlebury Public Library Card Benefits

(flyer)

January 2024

Collection Size	67,255
Monthly Circulation	3,327
Active Cards	2,696
New Residents	12

	Number of Programs	Number of Attendees
Adult Programs	6	15
General Programs	0	0
YA/Teen Programs	1	1
Children's Programs	20	94
Family Programs	0	0
Total Programs	27	110

February 2024

Collection Size	65,901
Monthly Circulation	3,100
Active Cards	2,733
New Residents	29

	Number of Programs	Number of Attendees
Adult Programs	5	32
General Programs	1	107
YA/Teen Programs	1	0
Children's Programs	17	130
Family Programs	6	176
Total Programs	30	445

Discussion

Wednesday, March 6th
1:00pm

Join us for a discussion of "The Kingdom" by Russell Banks.
New members welcome!

Join in leading a Discussion?

You will be selected by the discussion. For a list of those who have visited our website.

For more information, visit library.org/book-discussions or email libraryill@gmail.com.

Knit Social

Drop-in)

and company while working on



Library Catalog

Fridays In March
10am - 11:30am (Drop-In)

If you have questions about accessing our online Library catalog? Join us for a drop-in informational session and learn how to search for books!

BOOK EXPLORERS CLUB

Registration required each month.

Tuesday, March 5th at 6:00pm
Grades 1-3

We will discuss "Wedgie and Gizmo" by Suzanne Selfors.



Pick up April's book, "My Weird School Special: The Leprechaun is Finally Gone!" by Dan Gutman while supplies last.
Registration begins March 5th. Space limited.



Family and Friends Board Games and More!

Join us on Mondays in March for fun drop-in activities for all ages. Adult supervision required for ages 12 and under.

Early Learners:

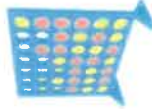
10:30am - 12:00pm

Elementary/Middle Schoolers:

2:00pm - 4:30pm

High Schoolers:

3:00pm - 4:30pm



Children's Story Times

Seasonal registration required.

Spring registration opens on March 4th.

Terrific Tots (Ages 2-3)

Wednesdays at 10:30am or 2:00pm.

Preschoolers (Ages 4-5)

Thursdays at 10:30am or 2:00pm.

Kindergarten Kraftearpoons (Ages 5-6)

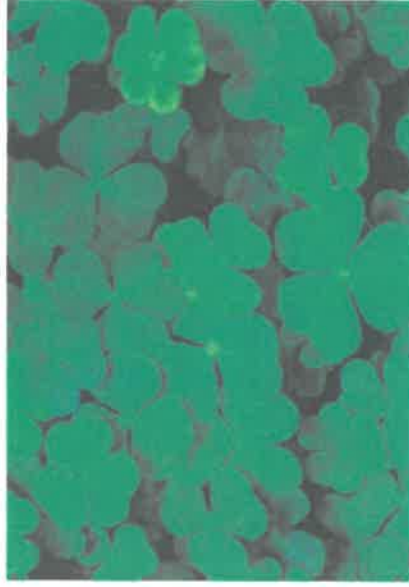
Tuesdays at 4:30pm.

Middlebury Public Library

30 Crest Road
Middlebury, CT 06762
203-758-2634

March 2024

Calendar of Events



Hours:

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday
10:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Tuesday
10:00 AM - 8:00 PM

Saturday
10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

www.middleburypubliclibrary.org

Check our website for events and upcoming programs.

5.a. Covid.

March 2024





Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<p>If Region 15 schools are canceled, delayed, or have an early dismissal due to weather, ALL children's programming for the day at the Middlebury Public Library is CANCELED.</p>				
<p>Story Time Spring Registration Week: Monday, March 4th to Saturday, March 9th. Please call the Library to check availability.</p>				
<p>4 Family & Friends Board Games and More Drop-In (See Back for Times) Stitches: Crochet/Knit Social 11:00am (Drop-In)</p>	<p>5 Book Explorers 6:00pm (Grades 1-3)</p>	<p>6 MPL Book Discussion 1:00pm <i>The Magic Kingdom</i> Family Movie 11:00am <i>(Winnie the Pooh)</i></p>	<p>7 Family Movie 11:00am <i>(Pooh's Grand Adventure)</i></p>	<p>1 Tech Basics: Library Catalog 11:00am (Drop In) Friday Movie 1:00pm <i>(The Ballad of Songbirds and Snakes)</i></p>
<p>11 Family & Friends Board Games and More Drop-In (See Back for Times) Stitches: Crochet/Knit Social 11:00am (Drop-In)</p>	<p>12 Kindergarten Krafternoon 4:30pm (Ages 5-6) Teen Advisory Group 5:30pm (Ages 12-17)</p>	<p>13 Terrific Tots 10:30am (Ages 2-3) Terrific Tots 2:00pm (Ages 2-3)</p>	<p>14 Preschooler Story Time 10:30am (Ages 4-5) Preschooler Story Time 2:00pm (Ages 4-5)</p>	<p>8 Tech Basics: Library Catalog 11:00am (Drop In) Dr. Seuss Birthday Story/Craft 2:00pm (All Ages) Dr. Seuss Movie 2:45pm</p>
<p>18 Family & Friends Board Games and More Drop-In (See Back for Times) Stitches: Crochet/Knit Social 11:00am (Drop-In)</p>	<p>19 Kindergarten Krafternoon 4:30pm (Ages 5-6)</p>	<p>20 Terrific Tots 10:30am (Ages 2-3) Terrific Tots 2:00pm (Ages 2-3)</p>	<p>21 Preschooler Story Time 10:30am (Ages 4-5) Preschooler Story Time 2:00pm (Ages 4-5) <i>Spring Craft Table</i> Ages 4-9</p>	<p>15 Tech Basics: Library Catalog 11:00am (Drop In) Friday Movie 1:00pm <i>(The Color Purple)</i></p>
<p>25 Family & Friends Board Games and More Drop-In (See Back for Times) Stitches: Crochet/Knit Social 11:00am (Drop-In)</p>	<p>26 Kindergarten Krafternoon 4:30pm (Ages 5-6) Library Explorers Puzzle Palooza 5:30pm (Ages 9-11)</p>	<p>27 Terrific Tots 10:30am (Ages 2-3) Terrific Tots 2:00pm (Ages 2-3)</p>	<p>28 Preschooler Story Time 10:30am (Ages 4-5) Preschooler Story Time 2:00pm (Ages 4-5)</p>	<p>22 Family Movie 11:00am (<i>Inside Out</i>) Tech Basics: Library Catalog 11:00am (Drop In) Friday Movie 1:00pm <i>Aquaman & The Lost Kingdom</i> <i>Spring Craft Table</i> Ages 4-9</p>
				<p>29 CLOSED</p>
				<p>30 5.a. Covid</p>

March 2024

5.a. Contd.

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		<p>1 Tech Basics: Library Catalog 11:00am (Drop In) Friday Movie 1:00pm (<i>The Ballad of Songbirds and Snakes</i>)</p>	<p>2 Spring Craft Table Ages 4-9</p>
<p>ok: Monday, March 4th to Saturday, March 9th. Please call the Library to check availability.</p>			
<p>6 MPL Book Discussion 1:00pm <i>The Magic Kingdom</i> Family Movie 11:00am (<i>Winnie the Pooh</i>)</p>	<p>7 Family Movie 11:00am (<i>Pooh's Grand Adventure</i>)</p>	<p>8 Tech Basics: Library Catalog 11:00am (Drop In) Dr. Seuss Birthday Story/Craft 2:00pm (All Ages) Dr. Seuss Movie 2:45pm</p>	<p>9 Drop-In Baby Story Time 10:30am (6-23 Months)</p>
<p>13 Terrific Tots 10:30am (Ages 2-3) Terrific Tots 2:00pm (Ages 2-3)</p>	<p>14 Preschooler Story Time 10:30am (Ages 4-5) Preschooler Story Time 2:00pm (Ages 4-5)</p>	<p>15 Tech Basics: Library Catalog 11:00am (Drop In) Friday Movie 1:00pm (<i>The Color Purple</i>)</p>	<p>16 Shamrock Scavenger Hunt 10:30am - 1:00pm Ages 2 - 10 Family Movie 11:00am (<i>Charlie and the Chocolate Factory</i>)</p>
<p>20 Terrific Tots 10:30am (Ages 2-3) Terrific Tots 2:00pm (Ages 2-3)</p>	<p>21 Preschooler Story Time 10:30am (Ages 4-5) Preschooler Story Time 2:00pm (Ages 4-5) Spring Craft Table Ages 4-9</p>	<p>22 Family Movie 11:00am (<i>Inside Out</i>) Tech Basics: Library Catalog 11:00am (Drop In) Friday Movie 1:00pm (<i>Aquaman & The Lost Kingdom</i>) Spring Craft Table Ages 4-9</p>	<p>23 Drop-In Baby Story Time 10:30am (6-23 Months) Family Movie 11:00am (<i>Hop</i>)</p>
<p>27 Terrific Tots 10:30am (Ages 2-3) Terrific Tots 2:00pm (Ages 2-3)</p>	<p>28 Preschooler Story Time 10:30am (Ages 4-5) Preschooler Story Time 2:00pm (Ages 4-5)</p>	<p>29 CLOSED</p>	<p>30 Easter Scavenger Hunt 10:30am - 1:00pm Ages 2 - 10</p>

Appendix 5.b.

AUTHOR	Middlebury Public Library
TITLE	Library Card Benefits
DATE DUE	BORROWER'S NAME
	Your FREE Middlebury Public Library card can be used at ANY public library in the state.
	The average library user checking out 5 books per month can save over \$1,800/year.
	Even if the library is closed, you can still read and download books from our extensive digital collection. For FREE!
	Enjoy FREE and discounted entry to museums and cultural sites with a library museum pass.

Your Middlebury Public Library card gives you
access to books and so much MORE
for FREE!