Special Meeting
Russell Library Board of Trustees
Middletown Senior and Community Center Art Room
Wednesday, April 10, 2019

**Present:** Trustees Becker, Berlind, Duggan, Fulton, Hadley, Murdock, Nelson, Norwood, Wisneski, and Zawisky; Library Director Burkey; Assistant Director Doyle

**Excused:** Trustees Ford, Russell

1. **Call to Order:** President Wisneski called the meeting to order at 6:09 p.m.

2. **Public Session/Comment:** There were no members of the public present.

3. **Strategic Planning discussion:** Library Director Burkey explained that the previous strategic plan had expired in 2017 and with recent changes in leadership there has been a delay in developing a new strategic plan. The plan will help Russell Library prioritize programs and collections and should affect community partnerships and staffing. The strategic planning committee has been meeting since November, using insights from the Aspen Guide and Harwood Institute to guide their work. She thanked Joy Collins for arranging the food, Cathy Lechowicz, Director of the Senior and Community Center, and the custodian for our use of the building.

Assistant Director Doyle led the Board through an activity to envision our aspirations for the Middletown community. Next we brainstormed ideas for how the libraries can support those aspirations. We filled out the “Turn Quiz” to see how Russell Library fits on the inward-outward continuum and talked about how the present-day library can change its function from serving customers to building human capacity. We listed the various groups of people who use or might use the library and we talked about the characteristics of our favorite places.

It was decided that another session is needed to complete the work of forming a mission statement for Russell Library.

The next meeting will be held on **Monday April 22 at 6:00 p.m.,** in the Senior and Community Center if it is available.

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy Berlind, Secretary