

**ILSLEY PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES
SPECIAL MEETING
MONDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2018
TOWN OFFICES MEETING ROOM**

MINUTES - DRAFT

Present:

Board members: Amy Mincher, Treasurer; Faith Gong, Secretary; John Freidin, Alice Eckles.

Library Director: Dana Hart.

Public: Barbara Doyle Wilch, Chair of Tell Me Tours; Joe McVeigh, Recording Secretary; Ross Conrad

CALL TO ORDER

Treasurer Amy Mincher called the meeting to order at 4:30PM.

TELL ME TOUR RESULTS

Barbara and Dana gave an extensive slide presentation [see attached.] They described the process of gathering multiple focus groups from a variety of different people over the course of several months. They then shared the highlights of the results of the feedback received.

The board discussed the findings and how to make use of them. Of the many ideas that were shared, here is a sample:

- **John:** We could have scheduled times for people with similar interests to get together: monopoly; needlepoint, etc. Can we get more diversity by involving the college faculty and staff more? Although people say that they want “togetherness” experiences, people are busy and want to stay at home. Why come downtown when you can do it at home? What are things that you can't do at home? Maybe there's a way to make the library a place where all kinds of stuff is happening. “Wednesday nights at the library” The first Wednesday etc.
- **Ross Conrad:** We could ask college faculty to come to library and give talks on their subject areas of expertise.
- **Amy:** Many patrons distinguish between “the children's room” and the rest of the library. The children's room is very, very active. People think of it as its own entity.
- **Alice:** the gardens should be prominent. There is no place in the downtown area for children to play. There are hardly any public swing sets in Middlebury: Storrs Park; Mary Hogan, Curtis East Middlebury Park.
- **Joe:** Do we have a unique selling point? How do we distinguish the library from other entities? This is a great list of ideas, but which of these ideas are actionable? How should we prioritize?
- **Dana:** there are increasingly few places in Middlebury where you can just sit and hang out for free.

The board expressed its thanks to Barbara and Dana for their work on the Tell Me Tours.

Treasurer Amy Mincher adjourned the meeting at 5:25PM.