

**THE FERGUSON LIBRARY
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
November 18, 2002**

Present:

Board Members: G. Harvey, Chair; E. Abate; P. Broom; K. Emmett;
R. King; H. Romanowitz; D. Russell; W. Warrick

Citizen Advisers: T. Cassone; C. Guinta; K. Sample

Staff: E. DiMattia; A. Knapp; G. Nichols; Jose Ruiz-Alvarez;
Caroline Ward

Mr. Harvey presided.

Minutes

The minutes of the September 23, 2002 and October 16, 2002 Board Meetings were approved as submitted.

Treasurer's Report

Mr. DiMattia reported on revenues and expenses for the first four months of the 2002-2003 fiscal year, noting a small year-to-date negative variance of over \$18,000. Mr. Nichols discussed the sale of the Anthem shares received by the Library.

President's Report

Mr. DiMattia reviewed highlights from his September and October President's Reports. Jose Ruiz-Alvarez, World Language and Literacy Librarian, was introduced and discussed his New York Times 2002 Librarian of the Year Award for Fairfield County. Caroline Ward, Coordinator for the Children's Department commented on the new Services for Educators packet distributed to local principals and media specialists, as well as the video of the Connecticut Channel 12 News segment on Ferguson's Baby Time Program.

Executive Committee

Mr. Harvey reported that the Executive Committee met on November 18th, and that matters considered at that session were included for discussion at this meeting of the Board.

Bylaws Committee

Ms. Emmett reviewed the proposed changes to the Bylaws of the Ferguson Library that were previously adopted on September 24, 1996. Following discussion, a motion was made, seconded and approved to adopt the new Bylaws.

Friends of Ferguson

Ms. Sample reported on the Stamford Advocate's newspaper article, that appeared on November 8th, about the Friends' bookstore, indicating that the Friends made \$16,000 for the first quarter of the fiscal year in the bookstore.

2003-2010 Capital Budget

The Capital Budget was distributed and priority projects were highlighted. There is a \$260,000 shortfall, plus the \$160,000 for up salaries will be approved by the Mayor and the Planning Board. catch- The \$61,000 received for Anthem BlueCross/BlueShield shares, a onetime allocation, will help offset this budget shortfall of \$205,000. A discussion was held on how to rectify this shortfall; a reduction in services, materials, and hours was reviewed. Discussed was the necessity to maintain core services at the Main Library and Harry Bennett Branch. Closing of the Weed Branch, before their expansion begins, was discussed, with the workers migrating to the other branches.

Nominating Committee

Mr. Cassone announced that Mayor Malloy had appointed Dudley N. Williams, Jr. to a five-year term on the Board of Trustees, to replace Juanita T. James. His term will expire in 2007.

New Business

The following motion was made, seconded and approved:

WHEREAS, Thomas M. Cassone, Esq. has served as a member of the Board for five years, 1997 – 2002, and,

WHEREAS, Thomas M. Cassone, Esq. has served as Board Chair for one year, Vice-Chair for one year, and Treasurer for one year and,

WHEREAS, Thomas M. Cassone, Esq. has served as Chair of the Executive, Bylaws, Building, Nominating and Personnel Committees, and as a member of the Executive, Bylaws, Building, Pension, Personnel and Technology Committees, as well as Board Liaison to the Ferguson Library Foundation and the Friends of Ferguson Library Board of Directors; therefore be it.

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of The Ferguson Library hereby extends its sincerest appreciation to Thomas M. Cassone for his distinguished service.

The following motion was made, seconded and approved:

WHEREAS, Juanita T. James has served as a member of the Board for five years, 1997 – 2002, and,

WHEREAS, Juanita T. James has served as Board Secretary for two years, and,

WHEREAS, Juanita T. James has served as Chair of the Pension Committee, and as a member of the Executive, Development, Education, Long Range Planning, Nominating, Personnel and Technology, Committees; therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of The Ferguson Library hereby extends its sincere appreciation to Juanita T. James for her distinguished service.

The following motion was made, seconded and approved:

RESOLVED, that the new officers, as well as the President of the Library, be authorized for, and on behalf of, this corporation to transact any and all business with the following banks:

- Chase Manhattan Bank
- First County Bank
- First Union National Bank
- Fleet Bank
- People’s Savings Bank

and that the Director of Administrative Services signature continue to be eligible to sign expense checks for The Ferguson Library.

The following motion was made, seconded and approved:

RESOLVED that the independent certified public accounting firm of Van Brunt, DuBiago & Company be appointed as auditors for the 2002-2003 fiscal year.

Mr. Harvey reviewed the appointment of Citizen Advisers and Board Committee Members for 2002-2003. A motion was made, seconded and passed to approve the Citizen Advisers as presented, as well as the members of the 2002-2003 Nominating and Pension Committees.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Ernest N. Abate, Esq.
Secretary