

Russell Library Board Meeting Highlights
April 8, 2008

- The Audit Committee reviewed the findings and recommendations in the Company's FY 07 audit.
- The Nominating Committee reported they are working on nominations to the Board.
- The Director reported that the City Council public hearings on the Mayor's recommended FY 09 budget had gone well. Assistant Director Juliano represented the Library at the Council meeting. Letters were sent to two Council Members in response to questions raised during the hearing. The Mayor has placed a freeze on hiring for vacant positions for the remainder of the current fiscal year. The changes in the Mayor's recommended FY 09 budget include:
 - (1) Less funding for overtime costs, which is mainly for Custodial staff on Saturdays and in emergencies, such as snow removal. The impact of this change will be noted in planning custodial services.
 - (2) No Capital Non-Recurring Fund for 2008-09.
 - (3) Reduction in Sunday openings from 27 to 26, from 2-5 pm.
- The Connecticut Library Consortium has informally approved the proposed renewal of the lease agreement.
- The Library is reviewing its Policies and Procedures to ensure that they are current. The focus at this time is Collection Development, which includes the withdrawal and disposition of materials.
- The Assistant Director highlighted the following in his written report:
 - (1) Updating projected expenditures for the current fiscal year as requested by the City Finance Department.
 - (2) Chairing a department heads meeting at which the timely use of funds donated by the Friends of the Library was emphasized. There was discussion as well on Matthew Earls' demographic study of new library users and a review of final drafts of several operating procedures
 - (3) Attending a personnel workshop on generational differences in the work place.
 - (4) Reviewing the Library's Capital Budget for FY 08.
- The Director announced that Donna Baron, Executive Director, Middlesex Historical Society, will speak at the Company Annual Meeting in June on "Middletown's Historical Future." The public will be invited to the event.
- The President spoke about her recent visit to the beautifully renovated and expanded Hartford Public Library.