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**For Immediate Release**

## **Community Leaders Discuss Future Uses of Goodwin Branch**

**January 30, 2018** — On Monday night, January 29, Hartford Public Library and business, government and community leaders, including members from the Southwest/Behind the Rocks NRZ, met at the Goodwin Branch Library, which



closed on January 1, for a discussion on how best to re-purpose the building and grounds. Finding ways to continue serving those communities affected by its branch restructuring has been a strategic goal for the Library. This on-going collaboration between HPL and the community's leaders is being facilitated by Leadership Greater Hartford. Ted Carroll, president of LGH, led

the meeting on Monday night. The get-together began by having attendees tour the facility with the purpose of imagining creative and sustainable ways to use all or parts of this community asset in creative and sustainable ways.

After hearing from HPL's CEO, Bridget Quinn-Carey, and Jim Boucher, co-chair of the SW/BTR NRZ, Mr. Carroll facilitated an inspiring and heartfelt discussion on how the Goodwin Branch could be used to meet the needs of the community. As Ted suggested, ". . . not just what this community needs, but as importantly, what it wants."

All of the many ideas, which ranged from after school programming and adult continuing education to innovation workshops and cultural activities, were captured on paper and are being reviewed and assessed in preparation for the group's next steps.

