

Cromwell Library Commission  
Regular Meeting  
Monday, March 14, 2016  
7:30 p.m.  
Cromwell Town Hall - Room 222

RECEIVED FOR FILING  
3-18 2016 at 10:30AM.  
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE  
CROMWELL, CONN.

*Luis L. L. L.*  
TOWN CLERK

Record of Votes and Minutes

Present: Chairman Marie Roberto, Margaret Colella, Kathy Newton, Barbara Grotheer, Al Dickerson, Martha Rennie (arrived 8:16 p.m.)  
Absent: Library Director, Eileen Branciforte; Diane Mongold  
Also Present: Mayor Enzo Faienza; Mary Payne, Friends of the Library Chairperson; Gerald Seagrave

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:37 p.m. by Chairman Marie Roberto.
2. Approve/Amend Agenda--*Barbara Grotheer moved to approve the March 14, 2016 Agenda. Seconded by Margaret Colella. In favor: Marie Roberto, Margaret Colella, Kathy Newton, Barbara Grotheer, Al Dickerson.*  
*Barbara Grotheer later in the meeting moved to approve an amendment to the agenda adding under Item 8. Other -- a. Elections. Seconded by Margaret Colella. In favor: Marie Roberto, Margaret Colella, Kathy Newton, Barbara Grotheer, Al Dickerson.*
3. Approval of January 11, 2016 Minutes--*Barbara Grotheer moved to approve the minutes of January 11, 2016. Seconded by Kathy Newton. In favor: Marie Roberto, Margaret Colella, Kathy Newton, Barbara Grotheer, Al Dickerson.*
4. Citizens' Comments--Gerald Seagrave noted that the Connecticut Library Association will be holding its convention on Thursday, April 21st and Friday, April 22nd at the Convention Center in Hartford.  
Mary Payne was introduced to the Commission members. She is the new Chairperson for the Friends of the Cromwell Belden Public Library. The Friends will be having a meeting this Thursday. She believes there are only 30 members. Mary distributed a flyer (which is attached) on their purpose and 2015 activities the Friends have supported. She would like to look into the Friends having a facebook page. There is a need to publicize; for example, the Friends book sales, museum passes, various concerts, baby time programs, summer reading program, etc. They are making an effort in 2016 to expand their membership and number of fundraisers. One idea would be to approach businesses to sponsor various programs and/or to have books for sale for a small donation.

5. Town Council Liaison Comments--Mayor Enzo Faienza noted there was a budget meeting held and \$375,000 is now in the capital budget to go forward with preliminary architectural renderings which will not require going to a referendum. These architectural drawings are for the library expansion only. Mayor Faienza also stated will be looking into technology for the rest of the Town Hall. John Harrina, our Town Engineer, will be handling the bidding process. Mayor Faienza has instructed the Town Engineer to work with Eileen and the Library Commission and should be moving on this relatively soon. The core group for this project will be Mayor Faienza; Tony Salvatore, the Town Manager; John Harrina, the Town Engineer; and Library Director, Eileen Branciforte. Martha Rennie noted that the Commission wants to be involved in and support this project. A referendum would be only for the money needed for the bonding. Margaret Colella stated a lot of libraries have a maker space for hands on training and technology. Marie Roberto added that the library is going to be a resource for all ages. There will be a Board of Finance meeting on Tuesday, April 5th, and asked that Eileen to inform the Commission when the Board of Finance meetings are being held. Marie Roberto asked that at least two Commission members attend future Finance meetings to show their support.

Regarding the storage shed--Tony Salvatore will be looking into that. A new parking lot is in the budget and we can find an easy way to drop off books in the new configuration of the parking lot.

6. Reports:

a. Chairman--Marie noted having met with Mayor Faienza. He will attending this evenings meeting to discuss what has transpired with the library building grant. Also noted, was that Marie Roberto, Margaret Colella, Martha Rennie, and Diane Mongold have been reappointed to the Library Commission. (8:16 p.m. Martha Rennie arrived.)

b. Library Director--*Barbara Grotheer made a motion to accept the February 2016 Library Director's Report and Statistics. Seconded by Kathy Newton. In favor: Marie Roberto, Margaret Colella, Kathy Newton, Barbara Grotheer, Al Dickerson, Martha Rennie.* The January 2016 Library Director's Report was deferred to the next meeting.

c. Finance--*Margaret Colella made a motion to accept the February 2016 Library Finance Report. Seconded by Martha Rennie. Seconded by Margaret Colella. In favor: Marie Roberto, Margaret Colella, Kathy Newton, Barbara Grotheer, Al Dickerson, Martha Rennie.*

7. New Business:

a. Aspen Institute/State Library Planning Day--Two memos were passed around to the Commission members. One on the subject: "*Excite Your Library Commission: Transforming Connecticut's Librarian Intensive Boot Camp Opportunity*"; and the second memo entitled, "Help Shape the Future of Our Libraries" being held at the Middletown Library Service Center on March 18th from 10-11:30 a.m. or 1-2:30 p.m. Call Dawn Lavallo to attend at 860-757-6665.

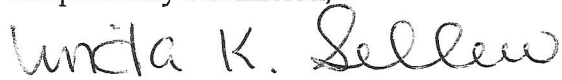
8. Other:

a. Elections--*Barbara Grotheer moved to nominate Marie Robert as Chairman and Kathy Newton as Vice Chairman. In favor: Marie Roberto, Margaret Colella, Kathy Newton, Barbara Grotheer, Al Dickerson, Martha Rennie.*

9. Next Regular Meeting Date: April 11, 2016.

10. Adjournment: *Kathy Newton made a motion to adjourn at 8:59 p.m. Seconded by Margaret Colella. Seconded by Margaret Colella. In favor: Marie Roberto, Margaret Colella, Kathy Newton, Barbara Grotheer, Al Dickerson, Martha Rennie.*

Respectfully submitted,



Linda K. Sellew

Library Commission Clerk



# **FRIENDS OF THE CROMWELL BELDEN PUBLIC LIBRARY 2016 ANNUAL DUES DRIVE**

The purpose of the Friends of the Cromwell Belden Public Library, a non-profit group, is to assist the library. The goals of the Friends of the Cromwell Belden Public Library are to make the library an outstanding cultural, recreational and educational center for our community. Every dollar raised is used directly to support the library. Some members support the Friends simply by paying their annual dues, while others become more involved by donating their time.

2015 activities of the Friends of the Cromwell Belden Library are noted below.

- Renewal of Museum Passes including passes for the New England Air Museum, Peabody Museum, Eric Carle Museum, Florence Griswold Museum, Connecticut Trolley Museum, Beardsley Zoo, Harriet Beecher Stowe House, Children's Museum, Mark Twain House, Connecticut River Museum, and New Britain Museum of American Art
- Various concerts
- Provide refreshments for various library events
- Baby time programs with Miss Emily
- Story and Craft Programs with Mr. Jim
- Creative Cake Pops Event
- Summer Reading Program – Sparky's Puppets
- Symbolic adoption of 2 animals through the Animal Wildlife Adoption Program. 2 stuffed animals representing the adopted animals were provided to the library.

Book sales were held in the spring and fall.

We are making an effort in 2016 to expand our membership and number of fundraisers.

We appreciate your membership to the Friends and hope you can join us. Remember, there are many ways which you can contribute and every little bit counts.

