

Cromwell Library Commission  
Regular Meeting  
Monday September 11, 2017  
7:30 p.m.  
Arch Room

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9-12-2017 at 2:29 P.M.  
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE  
CROMWELL, CONN.

*Lou Conaway*  
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Record of Votes and Minutes

Present: Chairman Marie Roberto, Barbara Grotheer, Kathy Newton,  
Martha Rennie, Diane Mongold, Al Dickerson  
Absent: Margaret Colella  
Also Present: Kara Canney, Library Director; Gerald Seagrave

Lois Meltzer introduced Kara Canney, our new Library Director, to the Commission members. Each member then introduced themselves and welcomed her to the Cromwell Library.

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:33 p.m. by Chairman Marie Roberto.
2. Approve/Amend Agenda--*Kathy Newton moved to approve the September 11, 2017 agenda. Seconded by Martha Rennie. In favor: Marie Roberto, Barbara Grotheer, Kathy Newton, Martha Rennie, Diane Mongold.*
3. Approval of Minutes of July 10, 2017--*Barbara Grotheer moved to approve the minutes of July 10, 2017. Seconded by Kathy Newton. In favor: Marie Roberto, Barbara Grotheer, Kathy Newton, Martha Rennie. Abstained: Diane Mongold.*
4. Citizens' Comments--None. (Al Dickerson arrived 7:39 p.m.)
5. Town Council Liaison Comments-- Diane Mongold attended the last Council meeting in behalf of the Library Commission. Refer to 7. Old Business.
6. Reports
  - a. Chairman--Construction grant is moving along. Will go into that later in the agenda. It's been a busier August than anticipated. A plea went out to Commission members to attend meetings and do some projects with Kara, our new Library Director. Due to construction going forward, was hoping one or two members that have an interest in this would meet with Kara. Could be by e-mail or in person. Barbara Grotheer

volunteered to be point person on all things construction. Diane Mongold volunteered to attend Town Council meetings. Other members will help out where they can.

b. Library Director--Kara Canney noted the following:

Emma Russo-Savage is our new Adult Services Librarian. Emma comes from the Wallingford Public Library and will be starting September 25th.

Kara is doing a space project with the staff which would involve walking through the library and noting what they see so spaces can be "freshened up". Commission members will be doing the same at the October meeting.

Library hours as of October 1st will be back on nights and Saturday.

Regarding the future of the library have some questions and reservations about the plans: -- The Teen area should not be in the back of the library. -- Should reverse the Children's and Tech area so you don't walk through the Children's area to get to the Tech area. -- Leave the circulation desk where it is and use the savings to spend elsewhere. These concerns were discussed with Anthony Salvatore who okayed to contact the architects for revision. There is money available to do these changes. Kara will be meeting with the architects this Thursday at 2 p.m.

A discussion followed on having a LOGO for the library and a book mark contest.

Barbara Grotheer noted the need over the next several months to let people know about all the activities the library offers before we get into the construction process. Some of these offers are: --Our new virtual reality lab. Right now it is mobile, not permanent. Our library received this through a grant. The lab sessions have gone so well that the company sent us a second set of equipment so we will be able to have two labs running at once. -- Computer classes for seniors. -- Music and movement classes for toddlers and preschoolers, etc.

Briefly went over the Library Statistics Report and the need to decide what our goals are; i.e., way to increase attendance, circulation, etc.

*Barbara Grotheer then moved to accept the August Library Statistics Report. Seconded by Martha Rennie. In favor: Marie Roberto, Barbara Grotheer, Kathy Newton, Martha Rennie, Diane Mongold, Al Dickerson.*

6. Finance Report-- Technology money (\$18,000) hasn't been spent. Quotes have gone out for new computers. Kara contacted Dan, the copy man, for leasing an all-in-one copy machine, printer, scanner, and fax machine. Cassie was up for renewal, but wasn't renewed. Called Liberica and straightened the matter out and renewed it. *Kathy Newton moved to accept the August Year-to-Date Library Budget Report. Seconded by Diane Mongold. In favor: Marie Roberto, Barbara Grotheer, Kathy Newton, Martha Rennie, Diane Mongold, Al Dickerson.*

7. Old Business--Diane Mongold attended the last Town Council Meeting. There was a definite difference of interpretation about seating--horseshoe seating vs. a more flexible seating plan. The minutes of the Council meeting reflected the horseshoe seating plan would not be used. Also, the amount of the construction budget was approved to \$3.6 million instead of \$3 million. Since this was previously approved, it was not open to further discussion.
8. New Business--Marie Roberto read a letter from Ken Wiggin from the Connecticut State Library dated August 8, 2017 regarding the library construction grant--copy attached. Marie added the October meeting date was changed to October 16th due to the Columbus Day holiday.
9. Other--Discussion followed over Deliver-It and their on-going problems delivering books between libraries. Kara noted she will be attending her first LCI meeting this Friday. She also voiced concern over the book drop and it being moved out of the elements.
10. Next Regular Meeting Date: October 16, 2017.
11. Adjournment--*Diane Mongold moved to adjourn at 8:55 p.m. Seconded by Barbara Grotheer. In favor: Marie Roberto, Barbara Grotheer, Kathy Newton, Martha Rennie, Diane Mongold, Al Dickerson.*

Respectfully submitted,



Linda K. Sellew

Library Commission Clerk