

**Cromwell Library Commission
Regular Meeting
Monday, March 11, 2019 at 7:30 p.m.
Arch Room, Town Hall
Record of Votes and Minutes**

Present: Chairman Marie Roberto, Barbara Grotheer, Kathy Newton, Margaret Colella, Al Dickerson, Martha Rennie

Absent: Diane Mongold

Also Present: Library Director Kara Canney, Gerald Seagrave

1. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Chairman Roberto at 7:30 p.m.
 2. Approve/Amend Agenda: Barbara Grotheer made a motion to amend the March 11th agenda to add under New Business: "c. Election of Officers." Barbara Grotheer made a motion to approve the amended March 11, 2019 agenda; Seconded by Kathy Newton. In favor: Chairman Roberto, Barbara Grotheer, Kathy Newton, Margaret Colella, Martha Rennie. *Motion passed.*
 3. Approval of Minutes of February 11, 2019: Martha Rennie made a motion to amend the February minutes which were missing a page containing Section 6. A complete version of the minutes will be redistributed. Martha Rennie made a motion to approve the February minutes as amended; Seconded by Barbara Grotheer. In favor: Chairman Roberto, Barbara Grotheer, Kathy Newton, Margaret Colella, Martha Rennie. *Motion passed.*
 4. Town Council Liaison comments: Marie Roberto spoke with Town Manager Tony Salvatore and Town Mayor Faienza about the library walk-through at the ground breaking of Covenant Village. All parties are in agreement on the recognition of Eileen Branciforte.
- Al Dickerson arrived at 7:39.
5. Citizens' comments: Gerald Seagrave reported that the Connecticut Library Association annual conference will be held in Mystic at the end of April. The early bird deadline to register is March 22nd.

6. Reports:

- a. Chairman:

Chairman Roberto shared the 2008 original architect's rendering of the library's plan (Option 3a) for the historical room. She commented on how far the library has come, and the hard work and effort put into the proposal by the community including the Junior Women's Club and Covenant Village.

b. Library Director:

Director Canney was asked whether there will be a grand opening of the library's new addition. She indicated that soft openings are likely with dates to be determined as the exact project completion date is yet unknown. An opening celebration is slated to happen in the fall.

Director Canney reported that Ashley, the new Children's Department Assistant, is doing a wonderful job. Ashley will cover this week for Emily Mills who has had a death in the family.

The Library Budget has been approved by the Town Manager and Town Council. Some patrons who initially expressed impatience with the library expansion have shown a change of heart, and many are happy to see progress.

Director Canney brought sample bookplates for the board members to review. These plates will fit inside any size book.

Director Canney reported that four library employees will attend the annual CLA conference in April as institutional members: Emma, Susan, Emily Mills, and Director Canney.

Director Canney reviewed the February statistics. As expected, there has been a decline in the library's statistics because many books are packed away during construction. The Hoopla program continues to do very well. There is also a temporary decline in public computer use because there are currently only two computers available for use during construction. Margaret Colella made a motion to accept the Director's Report with Statistics as written; Seconded by Martha Rennie. All in favor. *Motion passed.*

c. Finance Report:

Director Canney reported that the library is making use of its budget. Emma is still purchasing new books for patrons, and Emily is making headway with the reorganization of the Children's collection. Barbara Grotheer made a motion to accept the Finance Plans as written; Seconded by Kathy Newton. In favor: Chairman Roberto, Barbara Grotheer, Kathy Newton, Margaret Colella, Al Dickerson, Martha Rennie. *Motion passed.*

7. Old Business: None

8. New Business

a. Construction Update:

Director Canney reported that the steel work is underway. The crane is on site for two to three weeks, with assembly taking place in the library parking lot. Phase Three is currently ongoing and includes: electrical work, completing the ceiling grid, removing popcorn ceiling, and the construction of study rooms. Painters were at work on Saturday. Light boxes must be hung tediously in order to be properly placed. The roof has had its needed repairs including four drains and patches. There has been no subsequent leaking thus far. Security cameras are to be rearranged and added in accordance with the construction of new study rooms.

b. Book Plate/Plaque Wording:

Barbara Grotheer suggested the following commemorative plaque wording for the library addition: "In recognition and appreciation of Eileen Geer Branciforte, Library Director: 1977-2016. For her vision, guidance, dedication, and service." This language is endorsed by the board members in attendance.

Director Canney shared labels which were ordered by the library to be used as book plates. These labels were approved by the board members in attendance. Martha Rennie suggested the wording to be used on the book plates: "In recognition of Eileen Geer Branciforte, Library Director: 1977-2016." The board members in attendance agreed on this language for use in book plates to be inserted in a selection of the library's new books.

c. Election of Officers:

Barbara Grotheer made a motion nominating Marie Roberto as Library Commission Chair and Margaret Colella as Vice Chair; Seconded by Martha Rennie. In favor: Chairman Roberto, Barbara Grotheer, Kathy Newton, Margaret Colella, Al Dickerson, Martha Rennie. *Motion passed.* Chairman Roberto accepted the nomination.

10. Next regular meeting date: April 8, 2019

11. Adjournment: Margaret Colella made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:12 p.m.; Seconded by Kathy Newton. In favor: Chairman Roberto, Barbara Grotheer, Kathy Newton, Margaret Colella, Al Dickerson, Martha Rennie. *Motion passed.*

Respectfully submitted,



Rachel E. Novak
Recording Clerk