

MEETING MINUTES
Cromwell Library Commission
Regular Meeting
Monday, May 10, 2021
At 7:00 PM
Library New Space

RECEIVED FOR RECORD
May 11, 2021 12:58P
JoAnn Doyle
TOWN CLERK
CROMWELL, CT



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

Absent: Karen Spotts

Also Present: Library Director Kara Canney

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairman M. Colella at 7:08 PM.

2. Approve/Amend Agenda

A motion was made by M. Roberto to approve the Agenda as presented; seconded by M. Rennie. *All were in favor, motion passed.*

3. Approval of Minutes of April 12, 2021

A motion was made by B. Grotheer to approve the minutes of April 12, 2021 as presented; seconded by M. Rennie. *All were in favor, motion passed. M. Roberto abstained.*

4. Town Council Liaison Comments

There were none.

5. Citizens' Comments

There were none.

6. Reports

Chairman Report:

Chairman Colella shared with the Commission an article she found in the NY Times from September 24, 2020 called "Beyond the Pandemic" which was about how the pandemic has affected libraries and their patrons.

She finished by commending our town's library staff for how great of a job they have done during the pandemic.

Library Director Report:

Director Canney reports that she recently met with Public Health Coordinator S. Nesci, Recreation Director S. Kieras, Senior/Human Services Director A. Saada, Public Works Director L. Spina, and Town Manager A. Salvatore to discuss expanding services effective June 1st. The new guidelines are posted on the Town website.

There will be no indoor children's programming, they want to socially distance as much as possible. The Library does, however, plan to continue virtual programs for those that prefer it.

Effective June 1st, the Library will be open 10-8 Mondays to Thursdays and 10-5 on Fridays. The will not open on Saturdays at this time.

The Library is looking to fill a 19.5 hour position as well as a full-time position.

The Library laptop kiosks will become available to use and patrons can socially distance around the library for 2 hours with them.

The Library may do an outreach to Cromwell residents to see if they would like to obtain or renew library cards.

Director Canney is very pleased with the statistics. The Materials Added to Collection has increased tremendously from 2020 to 2021. The Library plans to expand the adult section more next year, as this year was more focused on the children's section.

The Library is eligible for a \$3,000 award through the ARPA(American Rescue Plan Act) Funds-Digital Navigation Project.

M. Rennie made the motion to accept the Director's Report; seconded by B. Grotheer. *All were in favor, motion passed.*

Finance Report

Director Canney reports that there is very little left in the budget and they are deciding which PO's can be closed. She will possibly ask the Town Manager about moving money between line items.

K. Newton made the motion to accept the Finance Report; seconded by M. Rennie. *All were in favor, motion passed.*

7. Old Business

The Policy Sub-Committee has not met yet.

8. New Business

a) Expanded Services

This was covered in the Library Director's report.

Director Canney asked the Commission if they would be interested in switching the meetings to daytime. After much discussion, the Commission decided not to make any decisions yet, and to continue the next meeting in the evening.

9. Other

There was no Other Business.

10. Next Meeting Date: June 14, 2021

11. Adjournment

A motion was made by M. Roberto to adjourn at 7:52 PM; seconded by B. Grotheer. All were in favor, motion passed.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "April Armetta". The script is cursive and fluid, with the first name "April" and last name "Armetta" clearly distinguishable.

April Armetta

Commission Clerk