

Minutes of Kent Memorial Library Commission
November 8, 2022
Kent Memorial Library

The meeting was opened by Chair Austin Roberts at 7:02 p.m.

Roll Call: *Commission Members:* Corbin Adzigirey, Michael Alexopoulos, Joshua Barrows, Eliza Childs, Becki Fuller, Joe Grimard, Claire Kawalec, Austin Roberts, Christine Sinopoli, Despina Tartsinis and Bob White.

Library Staff: Julie Styles.

First Selectman: Colin Moll.

Public Participation: None.

Approval of Minutes:

It was MOVED by Despina Tartsinis and SECONDED BY Joe Grimard to approve the October 11, 2022 minutes as presented. They were VOTED and PASSED unanimously.

Communications:

Julie styles has passed some financial correspondence on to Claire Kawalec

Report of the Director:

Julie Styles spoke about the documents she had emailed to Commission members. She also mentioned the following:

1. She has submitted the annual State Library report.
2. Staff are getting used to the new Time Clock system.
3. The library will be going forward with the Polar Express program.
4. Two new clerks have been selected and their hiring is being handled by the town's Human Resources.
5. There is a new Assistant Head of Circulation.

Presentation on Fine Free Library:

Julie Styles presented handouts regarding a Fine Free Library and led a comprehensive discussion on it. Among the points raised by Julie were:

- A. Fine Free means no fines for delayed book returns. Patrons still need to pay for books that are not returned or lost.
- B. 115 libraries in Connecticut are Fine Free.
- C. Statistics show that circulation and book returns increase at Fine Free Libraries.
- D. There is a potential financial barrier for poor patrons.

Standing Committee Reports:

1. Personnel Committee: Bob White reported that they had met and discussed preferences on how to do the review of the Library Director in January.
2. Finance: Claire reported that a stock gift had come in recently. The current balance in the accounts are as follows: General: \$1,613,989.54; Capital: \$262,479.83; and Fuller Memorial: \$216,317.42.

Special Committee Reports: Eliza reported that the Hospitality Committee is planning a meet and greet for Julie Styles, the new Library Director, on December 10th from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Policy Addendum "Discussion":

Austin called the commission to make a list of the processes and procedures the commission uses to operate so they can be codified. Two sample documents were presented.

Public Participation: None.

There is no regular Commission meeting in December. There will be a Financial Committee with Sky Investments on December 13, 2022.

Austin Roberts adjourned the meeting at 8:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Becki Fuller (Secretary)

Edited by Austin Roberts (Chair)