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MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY RELATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING

KENT MEMORIAL LIBRARY COMMISSION

March 6, 2025

6:30 P.M.

Marble Table at Kent Memorial Library

REC'D BY:



Chair Bob Parks called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm

Roll Call

Commissioners Present: Denise Boutin, Bob Parks, Despina Tartsinis

Also attending: Library Director Amy Vessella, Wendy Taylor (KMLC Staff), and Hollie Garrity (KMLC Staff)

1. Discussion of Past Activities

-Commissioner Parks discussed goal of the subcommittee meeting and asked for input regarding past and potential future activities plus current resources on-hand.

-Wendy Taylor briefed the subcommittee on activities held in conjunction with Suffield on the Green and the Used Book Sale in years past. The Library Information booth was set up on library property and relied on foot traffic to the book sale. Some of the items discussed regarding a booth were: location; giveaway items to attract young people; and teen and commission member volunteers to staff the booth.

2. Possible Events for 2025

-Hollie Garrity discussed work with which she is involved regarding a rekindling of interest among students for the trades. She is working with several groups regarding the education, training and licensing of students who may opt for trades versus college.

-Amy Vessella discussed fundraisers and community involvement functions such as car shows. She has had some success with these activities in prior jobs although there is a long planning horizon and a tremendous amount of work.

3. Action Plan

-The subcommittee and the guests discussed what could realistically be accomplished in the near term and it was decided that the main focus will be preparing for a KML booth at Suffield on the Green in September.

-Commissioner Parks will begin collecting information from the Knights of Columbus and develop an inventory of available resources. Commissioner Tartsinis noted that the KMLC should be briefed, and a decision made by the full commission by the May or June regular meetings for September SOG participation.

4. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 7:25pm

Respectfully submitted,
Bob Parks

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