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REC'D BY:

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
KENT MEMORIAL LIBRARY COMMISSION**

March 11, 2025

7:00 P.M.

**Town Hall Meeting Room, 83 Mountain Road, Suffield CT
Hybrid Meeting**

Chairwoman Sinopoli called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and welcomed new commission member Julie Bodnar.

Roll Call

Present: Corbin Adzigirey (7:15 p.m. Arrival), Julie Bodnar, Ann Borracci, Denise Boutin, Joe Craven, James Irwin, Claire Kawalec, Nina Kendrick, Michael Alexopoulos, Christine Sinopoli and Despina Tartsinis

Absent: Bob Parks

Also present via Zoom or in person: Library Director – Amy Vessella, Associate Library Director – Liz Bologna

Public Participation

None

Approval of the minutes from the February 11, 2025 Regular Meeting of the Kent Memorial Library Commission

Commissioner Irwin referenced the section titled “Unfinished Business letter A – Complaints Update” and requested that his name be removed from that portion of the minutes as he was not a party to that complaint and the complaint was dismissed. The minutes stated the “Irwins” as plural which inferred that he was involved in the process which he was not. Chairwoman Sinopoli requested that there be clarification that the name of the complainant be corrected to reflect “Suzanne Irwin” only. The associated docket number for the specific complaint being referenced in the February 11, 2025 minutes is Docket #2024-0085. The page numbering was off. There were three pages and the document described page 1 of 3, page 2 of 3 and page 3 of 2. The following changes should be incorporated:

- 1) “Irwins” should be changed to “Suzanne Irwin” in the Unfinished Business letter A section.
- 2) Docket #2024-0085 should be referenced as the complaint that was dismissed.
- 3) Page numbering should reflect there were three pages of minutes.

Commissioner Kendrick MOTIONED, and Commissioner Tartsinis seconded, to approve the minutes from the February 11, 2025 Regular Meeting of the Kent Memorial Library Commission as amended. Motion passed unanimously.

Communications

Association of Connecticut Library Boards

Commissioner Boracci MOTIONED, and Commissioner Irwin seconded, to table the agenda item for further discussion after the commission had been given an opportunity to review documentation pertaining to the Association of Connecticut Library Boards. Motion passed unanimously.

Report of the Director

The library director, Amy Vessella, provided updates on various aspects of library operations. Door count was down in January and February compared to the previous year, but programming attendance was high, especially for winter reading programs. She reported on personnel changes, including a clerk position that needs to be filled. She discussed a recent fire alarm incident and the need for an evacuation plan, as well as facility repairs needed for the emergency exit stairs. Ms. Vessella and staff will be attending the Connecticut Library Association's Annual Conference in April for professional development.

Report of Standing Committees

Building and Grounds

Commissioner Adzigirey stated there was nothing to report this month. Chairman Sinopoli inquired about the atrium project and whether Ms. Vessella had spoken with the Library Foundation to determine if they would still be willing to fund a third of the cost should the proposed cost increase substantially over the \$48,000. Ms. Vessella said she would be speaking with the Foundation in the next two weeks and should have an update for the April commission meeting.

Community Relations

Commissioner Boutin provided an overview of a recent meeting held by the Community Relations committee and reported that the committee is developing an action plan for a booth at the Suffield on the Green event in September. She noted that commissioners will be asked to man the booth for a few hours during the event.

Finance

Commissioner Craven reported that paperwork has been received by Sky Investments. He and Commissioner Kawalec will need to read through it and sign. He plans to attend the upcoming Board of Finance meeting on Monday when the Library budget is presented. Commissioner Kawalec volunteered to attend as well.

Historical

Commissioner Boutin stated there was nothing to report this month.

Personnel

Commissioner Kendrick stated there was nothing to report this month.

Policy

Chairwoman Sinopoli stated there was nothing to report this month.

Technology

Commissioner Craven stated there was nothing to report this month.

Unfinished Business

- a. FOIA Complaints update – The FOIA Commission dismissed complaint FIC 2024-0084 brought against the Kent Memorial Library Commission by Suzanne Irwin.

New Business

None.

Public Participation

None.

Adjournment

Commissioner Boutin MOTIONED and Commissioner Kendrick seconded to adjourn at 7:31 p.m. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Kristen O. Lambert
Recording Secretary