

Commissioner Parks is the new Treasurer of the Kent Memorial Library Commission.

Election of Subcommittee Chairs

Finance Subcommittee Chair:

Commissioner Kendrick nominated Commissioner Parks.

No additional nominations were presented.

Commissioner Parks is the new Finance Subcommittee Chair.

Technology Subcommittee Chair:

Commissioner Boutin nominated Commissioner Borracci.

No additional nominations were presented.

Commissioner Borracci is the new Technology Subcommittee Chair.

Communications

Commissioner Sinopoli acknowledged two letters sent via regular post: 1) Ruth Clark of Suffield, CT; 2) Ann Harper of Ashford, CT.

Report of the Director

Library Director Amy Vessella presented the "Director's Report – June 2025."

Amy will forward the RFP for the Atrium Project to the Commission.

Report of Standing Committees

Building and Grounds

Corbin and Amy will coordinate with the Suffield Garden Club on planters and maintenance information, as well as keeping poison ivy at bay.

Community Relations

Commissioner Parks reported that the committee has agreed on the design for a new banner and is in the process of gathering quotes. Bob, Amy, and others are working on the booth giveaways and handouts. Bob passed around a signup sheet for booth volunteers.

Finance

Commissioner Kawalec reported Sky Investments is being acquired by Aspen Standard Wealth, LLC. Commissioner Alexopoulos MOTIONED that the Commission sign the Consent to Assignment "Consent Form." Commissioner Boutin SECONDED. Motion passed unanimously.

Historical

Nothing to report this month.

Personnel

Nothing to report this month.

Policy

Commissioner Sinopoli stated that she was informed public meetings are governed by FOIA, however caucuses are permissible private political activities.

Technology

Nothing to report this month.

Unfinished Business

Membership in the Association of Connecticut of Library Boards "ACLB" was discussed. Commissioner Kendrick stated that all but the most recent newsletter is available online. Commissioner Sinopoli suggested that the Commission discuss an article each meeting, on a rotating basis, with articles chosen by Commissioners going in alphabetical order. Commissioner Corbin Adzigirey will decide the article/topic for the September meeting.

Commissioner Irwin MOTIONED the KMLC join the ACLB. Commissioner Alexopolous SECONDED. Vote: 1 in favor: Irwin; 10 opposed: Adzigirey, Alexopoulos, Bodnar, Borracci, Boutin, Kawalec, Kendrick, Parks, Sinopoli, Tartsinis.

New Business

None.

Public Participation

- Bob White, 995 Newgate Rd.
- Tess McCool, 10 Satula Rd.
- John Gracie, Divine Rd.
- Fred Sweitzer, 165 South Stone St.
- Bob White 95 Newgate Rd.
- Annie Hornish, 864 Thrall Ave.

Adjournment

Commissioner Borracci MOTIONED and Commissioner Irwin SECONDED to adjourn at 9: 26 p.m. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Christine Sinopoli

Revisions to the May 13, 2025 Regular KMLC meeting minutes:

Commissioner Kendrick responded to accusations made by Commissioner Tartsinis at the April 8 meeting. Commissioner Tartsinis accused KMLC Chair and Policy sub-committee chair Christine Sinopoli of holding “secret and illegal meetings.” Kendrick explained that the Connecticut Open Meetings law defines what meetings are and states that “single party caucus meetings” are exempt. Additionally, under FOIA rules, caucuses are not public meetings. Commissioner Kendrick stated that Commissioner Sinopoli acted in accordance with these rules because caucuses are entirely permissible.

Commissioner Kendrick referenced illegal meetings that took place in KMLC’s history, including an October 2021 policy sub-committee meeting of Bob White, Joe Grimard, Becki Fuller and Despina Tartsinis, as was referenced in the KMLC November 2021 regular meeting. They reviewed library policy and added policy, but there are no policy subcommittee meeting minutes or agendas from October 2021.

Commissioner Kendrick responded to Commissioner Tartsinis’s accusation that Commissioner Sinopoli “did not follow by-laws or procedures.” Commissioner Kendrick referenced section 12 of the By-Laws as well as the duties listed under the description of the policy subcommittee, explaining that while the library director can recommend policies for consideration, the policy subcommittee can also “identify, adopt, and keep up-to-date written policies.” Kendrick continued, stating that the town ordinance, which states that the commission has the power and duty “to establish policies for the operation and use of the library,” supercedes the by-laws. Kendrick stated that KMLC Chair Christine Sinopoli acted in accordance with by-laws and the town ordinance in recommending draft policies for consideration by the policy subcommittee.