

Minutes of the Meeting
Kent Memorial Library Commission

February 9, 2016

Bob Brooks called the meeting to order at 7:06 PM.

I. Roll Call of Members

Present: Mike Alexopoulos	Robert "Bob" Brooks
Joan Greenfield	
Joe Grimard	Kathie Harrington
Claire Kawalec	Chris Rago
Bruce Rietberg	Robert "Bob" White
Jackie Hemond – Library Director	

II. Public Participation Melien Lavoie of Plug in Muse

III. Minutes

Motion to approve Minutes of January 12, 2016 with no changes made by Kathie Harrington. Seconded by Chris Rago. Passed unanimously.

IV. Communications Received None

V. Report of the Director

(A) ACCE submission proposed – the two present bathrooms were not included in building renovations, but need a complete redo. Jackie/staff propose converting one to a unisex bathroom and the other to a small study room. John Cloonan suggests an estimate of about \$100k. Jackie and a second person plan to present this month.

(B) Furniture request (\$50k) - New furniture for newly reopened library – much of present furniture dates to original library opening in 1970's. Some have been repaired and refinished at least once since then. This is opportune time to replace various tables, chairs, and couches; also to replace 3 magazine racks destroyed during move – total estimate about \$50k. Proposal is Commission cover about \$12,500, the Foundation match another \$12,500, and our main donor pledged to match with the remaining \$25k. Jackie to get better pictures of proposed items, and present to us and Foundation for approval. Chris Rago volunteered to assist Jackie.

Joe Grimard made a **Motion** that, pending later approval by the Foundation and our Commission of the furniture, we approve spending up to \$12,500 towards the new furniture. Seconded by Bob White. Nay – Kathie Harrington; approved by the remaining Members. Passed.

(C) Glass Plaque – There are to be two plaques in the foyer of the new entrance. The Foundation is to pay for the “Donor Plaque”, and they want our Commission to pay for the glass “Zak Plaque” – cost about \$3,000. While many members felt this seemed an unusually large amount for a plaque, we also realized the important contributions made by the Zak family, including this ADA addition.

Chris Rago made a **Motion** to add item 9A to the agenda to vote on the “Zak plaque” proposal. Seconded by Joe Grimard. Approval unanimous.

(D) Jackie discussed staffing. We are already understaffed, and a recent vacant position will not be refilled. There is also another part-time position vacant but being covered, and Jackie is pursuing having the present person being appointed. In addition, Jackie feels an additional position to attend to the teen/youth patrons is needed to attract this clientele and serve them properly. There is presently no one available to service this important population. This will likely be a volunteer position, and Jackie is searching various avenues, and hopefully someone with a tech background.

There were also other updates regarding the move back to the main library.

VI. Standing Committees Reports

- (a) Policy Committee - Bob White consolidated the present Library policies and emailed them to the other members. We shall discuss them at another meeting.
- (b) Technology Committee – Bruce Rietberg reminded the group that with the fiber optics installation in limbo, we have to plan to call Cox to reinstall the cable internet, possibly with a higher-speed package (which would be a higher cost per month). Melien (our public attendee) uses the WiFi for her computer classes and says the present speed was too slow, and the coverage still not complete in the main building. We shall have to attend to the coverage when we move back in.

VII. Special Committees Reports None

VIII. Unfinished Business

- (A) Proposed amendments to library policies – covered above under Policy Committee.
- (B) Fiber optics / Cox cable – covered above under Technology Committee.

IX. New and Miscellaneous Business None

- (A) Zak Plaque – Bob White reminded us of the increasing money requests and decreasing funds, despite worthiness.

Claire Kawalec made a Motion to approve spending up to \$3,000 for the purchase and installation of the glass "Zak Plaque". Seconded by Joe Grimard. Abstention – Mike Alexopoulos; Nay – Bob White. Approved by the remaining Members. Passed.

X. Adjournment

Bob Brooks adjourned the meeting at 8:35 PM.

The next meeting will be March 8, 2016.

Respectfully submitted,

Bruce Rietberg
Secretary
February 11, 2016

Future 2016 Meetings : March 8, April 12, May 10, June 14, September 13, October 11, November 8, and Financial Meeting in December.