

**HUNTERDON COUNTY LIBRARY COMMISSION
HUNTERDON COUNTY LIBRARY
NORTH COUNTY BRANCH
65 HALSTEAD STREET
CLINTON, NEW JERSEY
June 20, 2014**

The regular meeting of the Hunterdon County Library Commission was called to order at 9:03 a.m.

ATTENDANCE

Thomas Valasek, Jean Allured, Peter Mustardo, William Newitt, Nouhad Jensen, Library Director Mark Titus.

OPEN PUBLIC MEETING ACT

Read by Jean Allured.

OLD BUSINESS

Walkway renovation

Frank Bell, director of Land Use and Facilities Management, was present to update the Library Commission on the front walkway renovation.

The survey and design phases have been completed and the project should go out to bid around the end of July. The bid should be awarded by the end of August or beginning of September and the work started around mid-September. Landscaper John Gulish will be brought in on the project. Top soil will need to be added to the Friends Garden and the plants will have to be removed before construction begins and replaced afterward. The color of the sidewalk will be determined later in the project.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Dick Ginman and East Amwell Planning Board Chairman Don Riley were present at the meeting to discuss the future of the South County Branch Library.

Mr. Ginman began by giving a brief history of the South County Branch, beginning with a bookmobile stop, then moving to a trailer, the location in Ringoes, and then it's present home on Route 179.

Mr. Riley said there is a desire in the community to return the library to Ringoes. There is a desire for the township to work with the County to bring it back.

Mr. Titus reported there was an outreach to East Amwell over the years and at the end of the lease, but there was nothing suitable. We are happy with the present location in many ways, including the cost. The people that currently use it like it, just as with the former

Library Commission meeting minutes
June 20, 2014

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC (cont.)

location. At this point it is unlikely that we will move the branch from one rental situation to another.

Peter Mustardo entered the meeting at 9:25 a.m.

Mr. Titus stated that we are happy with the present location, but if the community could put something together in the way of land and/or building, it would be a consideration.

Mr. Ginman asked if a clone of North County Branch would be a consideration. Mr. Titus stated that would have to be decided by the Library Commission, but this is also a political issue and would require a commitment from the County.

Mr. Riley asked how many acres would be needed. He believes that the most viable solution is for them to find land and then open discussions with the Library Commission and the Freeholders.

COMMENTS FROM MEMBER LIBRARIES

None.

REPORT FROM THE FRIENDS

Jean Allured reported for the Friends:

- Ms. Allured stated that having the sale at the Grange was successful, but having book drives at a different location from the sale did not work out well. Mr. Titus has reached out to the Fair Grounds to have the Grange for a full five weeks next year in order to hold two book drives there and then the book sale.
- The Friends awarded six scholarships at the thank-you party held at the main branch in the beginning of June.
- There was a brief discussion on how much should be charged for the pre-sale.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Thomas Valasek moved approval of the May 16, 2014 meeting minutes. Bill Newitt seconded. Motion carried.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- Jennifer Winberry stepped in to report on Zinio and gave a demonstration of Zinio for the Library Commission. She explained how One-Click Digital and Novelist Select work.
- Mrs. Winberry also reported on the success of the Art Show. About fifty-seven artists participated.

Library Commission meeting minutes
June 20, 2014

- Kathleen Connors reported on the Museum Pass program and gave a short demonstration.

CORRESPONDENCE

None.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Mr. Titus reviewed and approved the vouchers.

The amount for the library tax was reported in the Democrat this week. It was \$650,000 less than we requested. Mr. Titus has had conversations with Jane Previte, Interim Finance Director. We are still operating without balance sheets, so she and her team were unaware that surplus has been used to make up the difference in the past. We are not sure how to resolve this issue, but Mr. Titus will continue to work with Ms. Previte to come up with a solution.

Using the Pino Report, we are working with different departments to acquire what is needed to operate. We have received two new vans and two new cell phones. We will also be receiving new replacement computers this year.

PERSONNEL RESOLUTIONS

Thomas Valasek moved approval of the following personnel resolutions:

Ann-Louise Taylor be released from the position of full-time Library Associate, effective July 1, 2014.

Part-time Librarian Autumn Dilley's hours be temporarily increased, effective June 23 – September 6, 2014.

Part-time Librarian Sandra Janosik's hours be temporarily increased, effective June 23 – September 6, 2014.

Part-time Librarian Karen Lewis' hours be temporarily increased, effective June 23 – September 6, 2014.

Part-time Librarian Brynda Taylor Flynn's hours be temporarily increased, effective June 23 – September 6, 2014.

As needed Librarian Sue Ehlert's hours be temporarily increased, effective June 23 – September 6, 2014.

As needed Librarian Greg Slomczewski's hours be temporarily increased, effective June 23 – September 6, 2014.

Nouhad Jensen seconded. Motion carried.

Library Commission meeting minutes
June 20, 2014

Mr. Titus showed the commission a photograph of Clinton taken and donated by John Bohnel.

NEW BUSINESS

TEDx Talks

Two TEDx talks on library issues were shown to the Library Commission as part of their annual training. Both talks dealt with the role of libraries in communities. Discussion followed the viewings.

Mrs. Winberry noted that for the next staff in-service day, she would like to ask staff the question “What do you want to see?” and let the staff share their ideas on what direction the library should take.

Recorded Books has a platform for patrons to publish their own eBooks. We have a spot on the webpage for downloading apps.

Mrs. Winberry, Lee Comella and Kathleen Connors recently attended a webinar on LEAP products that allow the staff to go into the stacks with a tablet and check out items.

We need to help patrons become more comfortable with technology.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Library Commission went into executive session at 11:09 a.m. to discuss legal matters. The commission came out of executive session at 11:16 a.m.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at approximately 11:16 a.m.

Kathleen Connors
Secretarial Assistant