

**CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE, AD HOC COMMITTEE,
DANBURY LIBRARY DROP BOX**

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Committee Chair, Phil Curran called the meeting to order at 7:12 pm.

PRESENT:

Committee Members: Phil Curran Committee Chair, Colleen Stanley, and Paul Rotello

Ex Officio Council Members: Joseph Cavo, Council President, Robert Arconti, Shay Nagarsheth, Ben Chianese, Donald Taylor, Charles Trombetta, and Duane Perkins.

Also in attendance: Mark Boughton, Mayor, Member of the Library Board of Directors: Edward Moore, Sr., President, Robert Feinson. Vice President, Robert Mosley, Treasurer, Gary Falkenthal, and Randolph Summ. Mark Hasskarl, Library Director and interested members of the public

Chairman Curran began the meeting by introducing those present and stating the purpose of the meeting. He then asked Mayor Boughton to give those present a brief history of the issues. Mayor Boughton explained that the City has had drive up dropped boxes to return library materials for many years. A Public Building Department employee has been emptying the drop boxes. This employee was not really assigned to Library. However, in the recent past this employee became ill and has been unable to empty the boxes. Therefore, getting the drop boxes emptied on a daily basis has become a challenge. The Mayor continued that the 57 employees of the library expressed concerns about safety and time constraints prohibiting them from tending to the drive up drop boxes. Notice was given to the Library patrons and the boxes were moved to alternative locations and were available for after hours book return only. After receiving many complaints, a drop box was moved to library plaza and is available during the day, and the staff has agreed to empty this box.

Finally, Mayor Boughton stated that he personally emptied the box and has spoken to the staff who are satisfied with this resolution. The Mayor added that this is a temporary situation as the Library will expand into the space now occupied by Union Savings Bank and will have a drive up drop box as well as a drive-up lending services window in the additional space.

Chairman Curran and the committee then took comments from members of the public in attendance. These comments included the convenience of the drive up for mothers with young children, the elderly and the handicapped. Further comments were made about the personal safety of the new locations at night and finding an engineering solution to the problem.

Ms. Stanley commented that it is too costly for the City to employ an individual or the cleaning contractor to empty the drop boxes, and while she understands that it is inconvenient, it is temporary. The library will have a drive up drop box again in the future.

The committee discussed alternative solutions including an off duty crossing guard emptying the boxes, moving the boxes to another location and the initial plans for the new space.

Colleen Stanley made a motion which was seconded by Paul Rotello **to ask the Mayor's Office and Public Works to explore the possibility of moving the box to a location in the parking lot in which patrons can drive up to return materials.** Vote, all in favor, ***motion unanimously approved.***

As there was no further business before the Committee, **Paul Rotello made a motion** which was seconded by Colleen Stanley **to adjourn the meeting at 8:08 pm.** Vote, all in favor, ***motion unanimously approved.***

Respectfully Submitted,

Paul Curran, Chairman

Colleen Stanley

Paul Rotello