



Office of Mayor Miro Weinberger

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL ONLY

Marina Brown
catskillmarina@gmail.com

Re: Public Records Request

Dear Marina Brown,

The City has received your July 25 appeal of the City's decision to redact in part records responsive to your public records request on July 21, seeking:

"Under the Vermont Public Records Law, A§315 et seq., I am requesting an opportunity to inspect or obtain the following records.

Any records regarding the book "The Abolition of Sex by Kara Dansky".

Any records regarding the book "Trans by Helen Joyce".

I am NOT seeking records of WHO has checked this book out but rather discussion of the book and records concerning the aquisition of these books."

The City Attorney's Office provided you with a letter on July 24 stating that responsive records were being produced, but some information was redacted and withheld pursuant to certain statutory exemptions to the Public Records Act. Specifically, the City redacted:

- "Records relating to the identity of library patrons or the identity of library patrons in regard to library patron registration records and patron transaction records in accordance with 22 V.S.A. chapter 4." 1 V.S.A. § 317(c)(19).

You appealed redactions applied to:

"...the large blocks of redactions in this PRR response.

I am NOT seeking the identity of any patrons but i believe that i am entitled to see WHAT they sent you. Feel free to redact names and email addresses."

In reviewing the records at issue, I have determined that the redactions and withholdings will be maintained. Specifically, the redactions made to records REC006 and REC007 will be maintained because 22 V.S.A. § 172(a) establishes confidentiality for patron transaction records, defined as "library records that contain names or other personal identifying information that discloses an

individual's activities within a library, including the materials that have been viewed in print or electronic form, research questions posed, materials in any format that the patron has requested through interlibrary loan or has borrowed, or any other library service or consultation that the patron has requested." 22 V.S.A. § 171(3). The records at issue fall squarely within this definition and shall remain confidential. The withholdings in this request will be maintained as they also fall squarely within the above definition.

I hope that you will find the City's review satisfies your concerns. Please note that the Vermont Public Records Act affords any person aggrieved by this determination the opportunity to seek judicial review in accordance with 1 V.S.A. § 319.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Weinberger', is written over a faint, circular official seal or stamp.

Miro Weinberger
Mayor