

MINUTES

Henika District Library

Building/Grounds Meeting

October 23, 2023 at 4:00 pm

Members Present: Meghan Augustin, Suzy Byville, Tami Fryling, Gary Marsh

Members Absent: none

Staff Present: Cierra Bakovka – Director

Guests: Mike from Triangle

- I. Call to Order: Meeting called to order at 4:02 pm by Fryling
- II. Approval of Agenda motioned by Augustin, seconded by Byville. All yes, motion passed.
- III. Community opportunity to address the board – no comments
- IV. Approval of August Meeting Minutes motioned by Augustin, seconded by Byville. All yes, motion passed.
- V. Unfinished Business
 - a. Funding updates
 - i. Grant decision has been delayed to December
 - ii. USDA loan process requires 3 quotes from commercial banks prior to applying as well as a written description of our plan. Plan drawing is not required.
 - b. Parking Lot Update
 - i. We were the only bid. It's in the city attorney's hand, going to have a City Council meeting Nov 5 @ 7pm for formal decision.
 - ii. Our current landscape snow removal company has been asked to provide a quote for plowing.

c. Site Operations Discussion Continuation

Discussion revealed that committee members feel strongly that the local community has a strong attachment to the current location and significance of staying in the historical building originally willed to the library years ago. The library has a strong relationship with local businesses, which has proved to be beneficial. Ultimately, it is our responsibility to make whatever space we have available (at current site) work for our needs, we must be flexible with things like square footage, parking, and 'green space' to strive to meet the needs of the community as well. Long range planning is also at the forefront of decisions being made; new building should be able to meet the growing needs of the community for about the next 20 years. In addition, with the generosity of the City of Wayland helping the library to stay in its current place, it could risk seeming ungrateful should we move the site.

MOTION: the B/G committee bring the preferred option of staying in current location. 1st Augustin/2nd Byville

Gary: Yes, Suzy: Yes, Tami: yes. MOTION CARRIED

d. Review Needs/Wants list 1st Augustin/2nd Fryling

Needs/Wants list updated with more specific information, i.e. size of spaces being proposed. Discussion held about proposed size and committee concurred that reducing the original 17,000 sq ft to 9,000-12,000 area would be more realistic. This would still increase the current size of the library by about 3 times, remembering that we want to avoid making the new building too small, only to have to add on in a few years. The committee understands this is a fluid process and beginning steps will become clearer as the project grows. Information is being obtained from the State of Michigan whether we can add on our current addition. It is understood that the original historical building cannot be altered. Once the Grant decision

comes in, we will take the next step to apply to USDA for additional funds if that proves to be feasible.

VI. New Business

- a. Next Step Discussion 1st Augustin/2nd Fryling
 - i. Need to start talking with architects. Cierra met several at MLA conference, gave update. Mike from Triangle states they also have contacts with people with usually use. Starting discussions
 - ii. Take proposal to the board to reduce the size of the proposed building to 10,000 sq ft.
 - iii. Triangle speaking with State of MI for approval to add to current addition.
 - iv. Cierra going to next City Meeting on Nov. 5 for their decision on the parking lot.
 - v. Start looking at Community thoughts for new building by putting out a paper survey in the library and online survey, ArtHop/Snowfest brought in a big crowd last year, will try to explore this avenue after decision is announced by City on parking lot and BOARD gives approval. Per Mike, could use a consulting co. for help with surveys if so desired.
 - vi. Gary will get 3 written quotes from banks (to show to USDA for a loan application)
- b. Current basement use- Fryling raised concerns about the environmental safety of the 'Michigan Basement' portion of the original house and asked whether it has ever been tested for mold or other contaminants. Cierra does not believe there is a hazard, but it has never been officially tested. The building as a whole was tested when she came 2 years ago, and nothing was said about any space being of concern. The committee does not believe there is a concern to address at this time and agrees to Table the discussion.

- VII. Around the table.
 - a. Baklovka- is tired, somewhat overwhelmed; end of year projects coming up
 - b. Augustin- Good work being done
 - c. Byville- had to leave early
 - d. Marsh- nothing to add
 - e. Fryling- nothing to add
- VIII. Adjournment- motioned by Fryling, seconded by Augustin , motion carried. Adjourned at 5:43 pm.