

Weston Public Library Board Meeting
June 7, 2016

PRESENT: Amy Sanborn, Anne Hunt, Denis Toner, Barbara Groves, Pam Kersey, Amy Jansen, Michael Bellacosa, Lynne Langlois and Director Karen Tatarka

ABSENT: Rick Ross

Chairman Sanborn called the meeting to order at 7:48 PM.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The Vitale estate has been settled. Director Tatarka deposited \$35,000 representing the Library's final payment from the Vitale estate. A bill was received from Cohen and Wolfe in the amount of \$5,500 covering all remaining charges related to advising the Library Board on Vitale Estate matters.

SPACE PLANNING

Two meetings were held recently discussing furniture with PGA and with the Building Committee. The Committee is working on changes to the furniture inventory.

The Library Board reviewed the current status of the renovation, the projected costs and available sources of funds (Town, Library Board and State grant). PGA has advised that the projects eligible for grant reimbursement should utilize the full amount of the grant. Costs related to the renovation include the Gennarini Base Bid with Alternatives #5 and #8 and renovation costs outside the Gennarini bid including, for example, furniture and fixtures, fire alarm, and Soft Costs. The project cost, pursuant to PG Renovation Summary Rev 060116 (attached) is \$1,509,466 including Alternates #5 and #8. Total funding available is \$1,476,358 implying a funding shortfall of \$33,108.

At a Library Building Committee meeting on Wednesday, June 1, 2016, some Building Committee members thought that Alternative #1, HVAC, at a cost of \$105,000 should be considered as part of the renovation. BC Member Coprio has done an extensive amount of work to assess the status of the current Library roof to determine if its life expectancy with cleaning and treatment might allow the Board of Finance to consider repurposing some of the \$100,000 currently in the Library roof replacement account to defray the cost of implementing Alternative #1, HVAC. Director Tatarka And Chair Sanborn were instructed to meet with LBC/BC Member Wolf and BoF Chair Steve Ezzes to discuss this matter.

A meeting was held on June 7, 2016 with Library Director Tatarka, LB Chair/LBC Vice Chair Sanborn, LBC/BC Members/Chairs Wolf and Swerdlowe and BoF Chair Ezzes to discuss the feasibility of funding Alternative #1, HVAC, as part of the renovation. With this alternative added, the projected funding shortfall would be \$138,108, or approximately \$150,000, including the shortfall indicated above. After extensive discussion, including the expression of no interest in accessing the roof sinking fund account to "subsidize" the HVAC project, Chair Sanborn was asked to approach the Library Board at the meeting that night to approve an additional expenditure of \$100,000 from the Library's Endowment Fund to cover a share of this shortfall. Chair Sanborn was told this \$100,000 could be considered a loan from the Town, subject to BoF approval, that would need not to be repaid if the restricted portion of the Vitale Estate bequest was ultimately not unencumbered and needed to be returned. Chair Sanborn indicated that while a generous offer, the Board had great confidence that Town Attorney Sullivan was going to advise the Library Board imminently that this money could be unrestricted and the loan concept was not really "worth" anything. Chair Sanborn presented the Library Board with the proposal proffered at the meeting the afternoon of the 7th.

After a lengthy discussion, on a motion by Member Bellacosa, second by Member Hunt, the Library Board unanimously approved the following:

At its Library Board meeting on June 7, 2016, the board voted to stay with the previously approved Gennarini Base Bid including Alternatives #5 and #8, and including the other costs outlined in the PGA Renovation Summary Rev 060116. Additionally, the board voted to fund the projected renovation project shortfall as per the PGA document up to \$34,000. As such, the Library Board need not be on the Board of Finance meeting agenda for Thursday night, June 9, 2016.

With this configuration, the Library Board decided not to eliminate the glass walls for a savings of \$21,000. They will remain a component of the renovation project. Alternative #5 represents electrical work in the Children's Room for \$5,800. Alternative #8 is a savings of \$2,500 for utilizing carpet in lieu of cork in the Children's Room. This does not include Alternative #1, HVAC.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Children's Librarian Wilonski was invited to conduct Storytime at some of the summer camps. Further, Norfield Church is offering their facility to conduct the Library Storytime there during the summer. Director Tatarka and Librarian Wilonski attended Family Fun Night at Hurlbutt. They signed up new families for library cards.

We have a new intern, Colin. He is working on the RaspberryPi and other projects around the library. He has transformed the library logo into a file compatible with the 3-D printer. He has also helped a volunteer network the printer to the photocopier.

A pizza party was held for our two graduating pages. In July, we will get two new ones.

During the summer, the only materials available will be what is stored in the Community Room. The two conference rooms are set up with card tables so students can study there through the 17th. There will be normal operating hours during the summer.

Next week, the shelving and furniture that are being refurbished will be removed. It was suggested that Patty Gay of the Forum take pictures to show the public what is happening. Karen Bennett's husband also will take pictures of the library before and during the renovation to document the process.

FRIENDS

The July 19 Play With Your Food will be held in the Intermediate School Cafetorium.

MINUTES

Member Toner moved to accept the April minutes. Member Kersey seconded. The motion passed with seven affirmatives and one abstention.

Member Langlois moved to accept the May minutes as amended. Member Toner seconded. The motion passed with six affirmatives and two abstentions, Michael Bellacosa and Anne Hunt.

OLD BUSINESS

Member Langlois has spoken with former Director Jane Atkinson about the Jane W. Atkinson Service Award. This award will be given to a high school junior who, in the opinion of the Library Staff and Library Board, has made significant improvement to the library. Chairman Sanborn suggested that something be written to identify Jane as former Library Director. The award will be \$200 in cash. The recipients for this year are Hamilton Forsythe and Herschel Meadow. It was also suggested that we give them a book on the history of Weston.

NEW BUSINESS

Member Groves has been visiting libraries to see how they handle recognition of gifts to the library. She will give a more detailed presentation at the next Board meeting.

Member Kersey moved to adjourn at 10:01 PM. Member Jansen seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne Hunt
Secretary

Approved July 12, 2016