

Weston Public Library
Special Board Meeting
June 23, 2014

PRESENT: Denis Toner, Harriette Heller, Chairman Amy Sanborn, Michael Bellacosa, Lynne Langlois, Joan Henderson, Barbara Groves, Rick Ross, Anne Hunt and Director Karen Tatarka

Chairman Sanborn called the meeting order at 7:49 PM.

Chairman Sanborn announced to the Board that the Space Planning Committee has reached a consensus to make a recommendation for a consultant for our renovation project. She briefly outlined the steps over the past two years that the Committee has done. The Committee visited numerous libraries throughout the state, devised a list of possible space planners and/or architects, conducted a Town-wide survey, conducted focus groups and eventually narrowed the field of prospects to three: Peter Gisolfi Associates, KG&D and Creative Library Concepts. A number of other prospects were not interested because they deemed the project as too small; others didn't have enough time and chose not to submit a proposal.

Prior to this board meeting, the Committee had only addressed a qualitative review of the candidates; the bids remained sealed. During a discussion with Tom Landry, it was pointed out that if we revisited our prospects to widen the field, we may create more problems than we solve. Instead, some follow-up questions were submitted to the three candidates by Director Tatarka.

The Committee met with Peter Gisolfi and his team who would be working on the project. The purpose was to assess how compatible they would be to work with over the term of the project.

After the meeting, the Committee opened the bids. Creative Concepts (Charlie Cohen) had never done a project of this type and their submission was one based on commission of the sale of the furniture, therefore, there were no figures for comparison. KG&D proposed a flat fee. The Gisolfi bid was based on a percentage of the cost of the project. Chairman Sanborn took all the bids and devised a comparison chart to help the Board see the differences in the three bids. She then presented it to the Board.

Discussion followed.

Member Ross moved that we approve to contract Peter Gisolfi Associates for the renovation project subject to checking out additional references. Member Toner seconded. The Board approved unanimously.

A discussion of the steps to develop a contract followed. The contract may have to go through Tom Landry, but will need to be cleared by Pat Sullivan, Town's attorney. The

sense of the Board was that the Space Planning Committee would be authorized to negotiate a contract.

An owner representative is still under consideration for the project but is not going to be addressed at this time. The decision was deferred pending information developed during Phase 1.

The consideration of asbestos tile removal was discussed. Peter Gisolfi has been a strong proponent of removal. Chairman Sanborn will discuss this again with Tom Landry and First Selectman Weinstein. Peter Gisolfi was confident that a grant proposal could be submitted to the State by the end of August. It's possible that the asbestos removal could be part of the proposal. The concern is that in order to remove the tile completely would involve closing the library for a period of time.

Chairman Sanborn said that Karen needs to talk to both Tom Landry and Rick Darling to see if there is any money left in our budget which could be encumbered to help defray some of the renovation costs.

Member Ross moved to adjourn and thanked the Committee for all their efforts. Member Henderson seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 8:56 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne Hunt
Secretary