

2017 JAN 11 PM 2: 25

Belmont Public Library, Belmont, MA

Feasibility Study Committee

December 1, 2016

Minutes of the meeting

Members present included Elaine Alligood, Kathy Keohane, Jenny Fallon, Joel Semuels, Anne Paulsen, Claire Coburn and Peter Struzziero and Gerald Boyle as Ex-officio members.

Also attending were Stewart Roberts, architect, and two observers: Sarah Phillips and Vicki Slavin.

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM. The minutes of the October 27, 2016 meeting were reviewed and approved unanimously as amended with minor edits.

Peter Struzziero reported on his meeting with Adam Dash. The meeting included a conversation on the reasons the Library is not pursuing an MBLC grant.

Anne Paulsen submitted her notes from the November 17, 2016 Public Forum.

Peter Struzziero provided information on the number of responses to the public survey – 190 to date. As the survey result is 63 pages, Peter Struzziero had only two hard copies available. An electronic version of the comments will be sent out at the completion of the survey, expected to be about one more week.

Anne Paulsen noted that the 3-story option was a concern at her table and should be further investigated. Stewart Roberts noted that he has been working on a 3-story option as one of the new construction scenarios. He notes this decision could be made in the Schematic Design phase. Peter Struzziero will be meeting with Glenn Clancy on December 5<sup>th</sup> and will discuss this issue.

Kathy Keohane inquired if there were plans for Committee representatives to meet with any other groups. Peter Struzziero indicated nothing formal after his Glenn Clancy meeting, but also added that he spoke with Superintendent of Schools John Phelan and Chair of the Highschool Building Committee Bill Lovallo.

Stewart Roberts introduced his review of current design options by noting they were not much different than what was presented at the Public Forum. What would be new was the introduction of 3D modeling showing various exterior views.

Following the presentations, he reminded the Committee that the present task was to reduce the new construction options from two to one. A discussion of the pros and cons of the two options ensued. A straw poll indicated the majority of the Committee favored retaining the Option 3B.3 which included space for gardens in the rear. The predominant objection to this option was reduced parking.

The Committee discussed the possibility of a third Public Forum. For discussion purposes, Stewart Roberts speculated that the cost of options from least to most would be: renovation,

new, then add/reno as the most expensive. Both the reno and add/reno options would most likely be subject to very costly seismic upgrades.

Stewart Roberts indicated costs estimates for the three selected options could be available by January 10, 2017. The Committee discussed the upcoming sequence of events to be:

Full Feasibility Committee meeting

3<sup>rd</sup> Public Forum

Full Feasibility Committee follow up meeting to review comments from the Public Forum and vote on preferred option to be submitted to Library Board of Trustees

The Committee discussed long range scheduling and what information would be necessary to have ready for May Town Meeting. This information would include the development of a funding plan. The Committee also discussed the schedule for Town Meeting approval relative to other potential major capital projects, including Belmont High School.

The next meeting was scheduled for 7:00 on Tuesday, January 10, 2017 at the Library.

The next Public Forum was scheduled for Tuesday, February 7, 2016 at the Library.

The Committee adjourned at 9:15.

Submitted by

Gerald R. Boyle, Secretary ProTem