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Belmont Public Library, Belmont, MA

Feasibility Study Committee

2016 DEC -7 AM 9: 07

October 27, 2016

Minutes of the meeting

Members present included Elaine Alligood, Kathy Keohane, Hannah Fischer, Nancy Dignan, Jenny Fallon, Joel Semuels and Peter Struzziero and Gerry Boyle as Ex-officio members.

Also attending were Stewart Roberts, architect, and two observers: Gail Gorman Chair of the Friends of the Belmont Library and Steven Johnson.

The meeting was called to order at 7:15 PM. The minutes of the September 27, 2016 were read and approved unanimously.

Peter Struzziero reported on his meeting with the Conservation Commission. A meeting that Elaine Alligood also attended. The Conservation Commission is supportive of the library. Their concern is with the 25 foot barrier from the Wellington Brook which runs behind the library. The proper distance must be maintained.

The meeting with the Council on Aging went well and the board is also supportive. They wanted to be sure there will be enough handicapped parking and access to the library from the parking lot as well as accessibility within the new library.

Mr. Struzziero followed with reference to the positive article about the library in the Citizen Herald and the two successful teen focus groups.

About 30 people have responded to the survey about the library and it was decided to add the survey to the town web page.

Mr Struzziero has planned a children's meeting on November 5th to gain their perspective and learn about their favorite ideas for a new library.

The public forum will be held on November 17 and will be advertised in the paper and through the town. There will be a presentation by the architect. It was decided to show four schemes at the forum. A renovation only, a renovation with an addition, and two new constructions. The presentations will be followed by small group discussions led by members of the Feasibility Committee which will provide opportunity for citizen input.

Following the discussion of the public forum, the architect showed more updated building schemes for committee discussion and for preparing for the public forum.

The committee adjourned at 9:15

Submitted by
Anne Paulsen, Secretary ProTem