

Chester Library Building Committee
Regular Meeting
September 6, 2017
Community Meeting Room
203 Middlesex Turnpike
Chester, Connecticut

CALL TO ORDER

Denny Tovey called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m. In attendance included Denny Tovey, Stephanie Romano, Lois Nadel, Terry Shriever, Pat Holloway, and John Williams. Bob Gorman, Chuck Muller, Steve Tiezzi, Peter Harding, and Aaron Page were absent.

REVIEW OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

Pat Holloway made a motion to approve the minutes from the previous Library Committee meeting. Lois Nadel seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

GRANT EXTENSION

The letter grant extension letter has been submitted to the State and will appear on the agenda at the next State Library Committee Meeting, 9/21/17. The results of the request will be determined at the State's meeting.

FUND RAISING

Pat Holloway reported that fundraising will begin after the protocol for same is established and relayed to the Library Committee. Additional information will be available after the 9/28 BOF meeting.

BOARD OF FINANCE MEETING/PRESENTATION OF 9/28

Steve Tiezzi and Chuck Mueller will develop a presentation on the Library/NQP proposal. The presentation will be given to the BOF at their 9/28/17 Special Meeting. The committee briefly discussed the format of the presentation, including anticipated operating costs (no additional personnel costs), the addition of the playscape, and clean-up of the park, not solely focusing on the actual library building. The presentation should also include a section regarding the users of the library; elderly and children, who may have difficulty accessing neighboring libraries. Note that small parts of the playscape have been or will be replaced and will be used if/when the NQP is redeveloped.

AUDIENCE OF CITIZENS – None.

NEW BUSINESS

John Williams suggested that an ICRV radio interview could be used as a Q and A session and to bring awareness to the project. The radio segment could be saved

and replayed as necessary. Any radio interview would be solely informational, not political and not against or in favor of the project.

The Committee also briefly discussed the possibility of collecting “soft pledges” without actually exchanging money. This would allow the Committee to demonstrate to the Town that donations would lower the potential cost to taxpayers.

The Committee discussed requesting that the BOF provide an acceptable figure (their opinion only) for a project. This would give the Committee a fundraising “goal” for the project.

The timeline for a Referendum was discussed. It was suggested that a Referendum in 6 months would allow the Committee to begin fundraising and get information on the project out to the public.

ADJOURNMENT

Terry Schriever made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:02 p.m. John Williams seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary Jo Helchowski
Clerk