

Board Meeting

3/17/25

Call to Order

Stephanie Cuomo calls meeting to order at 4:25

Roll Call

Stephanie Cuomo, Nancy Stowell, Rebecca Sokol, Judy Swartz, David Salvagni, Lisa Harvey, Alyssa Mason, Diane Empie, Guest Daniel Wilson

New Business:

Discussion of Renovation Project

- Our guest Daniel came to talk to us about the potential renovation project that would make the library handicap accessible. He is an architect that has worked on historical building restoration for 30 years
 - key points
 - Has done many accessibility Projects
 - Estimator is hired with good numbers
 - Accessibility isn't just about getting into the building, they need access to all the collections
 - A small elevator is best for access and on accessible toilet room
 - Makes our building more inclusive
 - We can use the architect report to get grants to cover the costs
- What do we do if we run into harmful chemicals during construction (asbestos, lead paint, pcg, etc)?

We will have to bring in an environmental engineer who can just sample the construction area or do the entire building.
- There is no more grandfathering in of public buildings for accessibility. Every building has to meet a level of accessibility on the federal level. This is seen in building codes and the ADA law. The only way to get around it is if the building project impacts the historical fabric of the building but this is almost impossible to prove. The Dept of Justice sued the City of Hudson for their city hall not meeting accessibility requirements. The current government administration may not sue but individuals in the community could.
- We will do the bare minimum requirements to be accessible by code
 - 1st- priority access to the main space through the use of an elevator to go between both floors
 - 2nd- accessible toilet room
 - 3rd- rearrange rooms for easier access

4th- add a 3rd bathroom

- We may possibly have to do phases for financial issues but this may end up costing more money in the long run. It is best to do as much as possible in one go.
- This might possibly lower insurance but most likely not
- We can use the report to get funding. They will help us get finances by assisting with grants and ways to fundraise.
- Some grants may require us to bid for architects, set up bidding documents for contractors. We will work to make sure we meet code
- Some grants require a percentage of matching in order to receive them
- There are many grant sources locally for public libraries. Use of a CFA for funding.
- Would there be possible closures to the library? We might have to restrict access at certain time to certain areas. The projects are not very invasive.
- There will be changes to the plan as time goes on. Everything in the report is not set in stone.
- We will have to find out what actions we need to take in order to get rid of some items in the building before and during the projects.

Motion to move forward with building renovations

David makes a motion to move forward with the architects plans to make Margaret Reaney Memorial Library handicap accessible.

Seconded by Judy

Vote all in favor

Judy makes a motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:38

Seconded by david

All in favor