

MINUTES
WAUKESHA PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD
Building Committee Meeting
Wednesday, October 7, 2020 4:30 PM
Library Board Room

DRAFT

Members Present: Trustees S. Ammerman, E. Helgestad, P. Kasprowicz and L. Miller

Members Absent: Trustee M. Ryan

Others Present: Bill Robison, Partner with Engberg Anderson Architects, Library Director B. Gay, Assistant Director J. Klima, and Special Projects Coordinator J. Quinlan

The meeting was convened at 4:31 p.m. by Trustee Kasprowicz.

1. Approval of the minutes for March 14, 2019

Trustee Helgestad moved to approve the minutes for March 14, 2019 as presented. Trustee Kasprowicz seconded; motion carried with a unanimous roll call vote.

2. Discussion/recommendation regarding front entry repair/renovations

Committee Chair Kasprowicz said that the committee would be evaluating the document which outlined the Library Director's recommendations to revise the construction bid contracts thus reducing the overall cost of the project. Library Director Gay said that last month Engberg Anderson sent revised documents and images that outlined how the changes would lower the cost of the front entry repair. The first recommended option reduces the need for additional steel supports by making the vertical panels all the same size. The previous panels were larger and matched the size of the windows. This option would lower the cost of the project by \$32,000. Bill Robison said that in looking at the project and the challenges with the vertical panels they investigated using equal size panels and discovered that the cost would be significantly lower. The old panels used compression clips to hold them in place and tended to shift or slide over time. The new system uses drilled bolts and must be near the steel frames. Since this offered such a significant cost savings, they wanted to present it to the Library Board as an option. Trustee Ammerman asked how this change would affect the aesthetics of the front entry. Mr. Robison said that most people would not notice the change but that adding a graphic image or artwork on the panels would also help.

Library Director Gay explained that the second recommendation would be to install a solid horizontal canopy versus one with made from resin. One positive outcome of this modification is that they would be able to add downlights that would illuminate the stairs and ramp much better at night. The cost savings for this option is \$64,000, a significant reduction. Trustee Helgestad inquired what type of material would be used for the solid canopy. Bill Robison replied that it would most likely be a more traditional structural roofing deck with a rubber membrane along with a drainage system. The underside would be a smooth, solid metal surface or an exterior grade soffit material. The panels would not be translucent so you would not see bird droppings or other stains above.

Library Director Gay said that the third proposed change includes the option for having an image on the vertical panels. He proposes that the Library Board keep this option in the bid as an alternate, giving them time to explore what type of image to use. This would add \$23,000 to the project cost. He would like to see an iconic image and he recommended holding this possibility open for now. The Library's Public Art Committee might have some ideas, or the Library might be able to host an art competition. Bill Robison said that competitions can be difficult when it comes to the selection process. With the Library's

project, everyone would get the same canvas with the same parameters. He recommended either black and white or gray scale, with colored lights. It may be an opportunity for a sponsor. Trustee Ammerman asked what happens if one or more of the panels are damaged. Mr. Robison said that the vendors use and save a digitized file for the image. It would be a very easy process to replace a panel especially if the image is in black and white. There also would be no color fading then. Trustee Helgestad asked if the color lighting option would cost an additional \$24,000. Mr. Robison said that the colored lights would be added as an alternate, which allows for flexibility in the contractor's bids. With the four recommendations, this brings the total project savings to \$49,000. **Trustee**

Ammerman moved to recommend the Library Director's recommendations to revise the construction bid contracts as discussed. Trustee Helgestad seconded.

Trustee Ammerman asked about the next steps for the image. Library Director Gay responded that he wants to bring this item to the November Library Board for discussion. He would like to get some mock-ups from some artists or discuss holding a competition. The City Planning Commission will need to approve the final exterior design. Bill Robison said that the Library Board has time; he anticipates that the bids will be released in the spring and they can take any item out up to the day before. Trustee Ammerman asked if the updated project budget falls within the CIP budgeted amount. Director Gay replied that yes, the Library can confidently move forward with the entire project, both the exterior and interior. Trustee Ammerman commented that she likes the look of the downlights on the horizontal panels. Trustee Helgestad agreed and is happy with the changes. Director Gay said that an additional benefit is that the Waukesha Public Library sign will be easier to light up as well. Bill Robison said that they are very excited about the overall package for the project. The exterior detail will carry into the interior. **The motion carried with a unanimous roll call vote.**

3. Adjournment

Absent any objections, the meeting adjourned at 4:56 p.m.

J. Quinlan, Recorder