

**MINUTES
AD HOC LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT BOARD**

MARCH 2, 2020

The first meeting of this Board was called to order by Belinda Ludwig at 6:00 p.m. Members present were Ann Friederichs (6:10 p.m.), Beth Voss, Kayla Loesch, Joan Nevitt, Alicia LaBeau, City Council Member, Belinda Ludwig, Treasurer/Acting City Administrator, and Megan Brick (6:10 p.m.). Also present were Advisory Members: Maretta Velyan, Friends of the Library Board and Kateri Gruber, Library Services Coordinator and GRRL Representative. Absent was Pat Hanson, Advisory Member.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Motion was made by LaBeau to elect Friederichs as Chairman, Voss as Vice-Chairman, and Ludwig as Secretary. Seconded by Nevitt and unanimously carried.

Friederichs proceeded to run the meeting.

MEETING SCHEDULE

Motion was made by LaBeau to set the meetings for the 1st and 3rd Mondays of the month at 6:00 pm at the Library. Seconded by Ludwig and unanimously carried.

Motion was made by Ludwig to set a special meeting on Monday March 30th at 6:00 pm at the Library. Seconded by LaBeau and unanimously carried.

TOUR OF FORMER SHOPKO BUILDING

There will be a tour of the former Shopko building on Wednesday, March 4, 2020 at 1:30 pm.

LIBRARY INFORMATION

There was discussion on the current size of the library and it was determined that it is not large enough. Adding on to the existing building would not gain very much space. It was also stated that the Paynesville library is very busy for the population of the community. The 2018 circulation was 48,115. It was discussed that the Board needs to conduct a survey to determine what the residents would like from a Library. It would be beneficial to offer the survey in different formats such as online, by mail, paper copies throughout the City, etc. Brick and Voss will look into different methods that would work and still keep the integrity of one survey per person. In addition, look into different questions to be asked. The question was asked if City has a budget for the library project. It was stated the City does not have a budget for this project.

PROS AND CONS OF SHOPKO BUILDING OR EXISTING BUILDING

There was discussion on different locations for the library. Pros at the old Shopko building would be much better parking, larger building, close to high school, some daycares and apartments on that side of town. The committee wasn't at all in favor of keeping it at the current location due to size and parking. Friederichs stated that the downtown in general needs more parking. The question was asked as to what else may go in at the former Shopko building. There has been rumors of possibly putting in the liquor store, a daycare, or service businesses. It was commented that it may work well to put the library at the City Hall building and move the City Hall and liquor store to the old Shopko building. Pros on that move would be the parking for both the library and City Hall would be good. City hall is approximately 5,000 square feet, City Hall and the liquor store may go together better than a library and liquor store. It was also discussed to knock down the old Corner Drug building. It was stated that the former Corner Drug building is connected to the Eats and Treats building and cannot be taken down without taking down both buildings. LaBeau stated that the cost of purchasing the Eats and Treats and taking both buildings down is approximately \$300,000.00. A study was done to take down the old Corner Drug building to Blessing Well Gallery building with a cost of approximately \$1.2 million just for demolition. The Board agreed that the downtown options that include demolition of current buildings are going to be too expensive. The top priority is expansion.

FUNDRAISING EFFORTS

Fundraising efforts were discussed. With council approval on the March 9, 2020 Council agenda, Nevitt will look into grant options for the costs of a new library. Discussion was held as to whether the Friends of the Library was a 501C. Members were unsure of the status. Brick and Velyan will check into the status.

ACTION ITEMS

The Board put together a list of action items:

- Nevitt will get information on potential study grants
- Brick and Voss will work on the development of a survey
- Loesch will look into information on the Kimball library
- Gruber will look into the GRRL requirements
- Nevitt will get an opinion of Dickhausen from the school system
- Velyan will check on the status of the Friends of the Library

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on March 16, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. at the library.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:03 p.m.