

**Brooks Memorial Library
Building and Grounds Committee Meeting
January 28, 2015, 4:00 PM**

Present: Pam Becker, Christine deVallet, Jerry Goldberg, Tom Murray, Elizabeth Tannenbaum, Jane Southworth -- Staff: Jerry Carbone, Therese Marcy, Lindsay Bellville.

Absent: None

1. Call to order: Pam called the meeting to order at 4:10PM.

2. Changes to the agenda: None

3. Public comment: None

4. Minutes of 1/20/2015 were approved.

5. Old Business: None

6. New Business

The committee welcomed Jim Williams, former Trustee and architect. Jim agreed to walk through the library with an eye towards space and how to meet the goals set out by strategic plan.

Jim was given the list of rooms and the ideas that came out of the B&G committee in 2012. The tour started in the Meeting Room and talked about storage and dividing the space and the rooftop outside the windows. The staff Lounge/storage room was looked at in terms of other uses. The Tech Room is large enough to be easily divided with access into the hall and view from the CR. The Art Room/closet needs more storage space.

The Children's Room was the next stop. Lindsay reviewed the new floor plan and the rationale behind it. Committee members also discussed different perspectives on lighting in the hallway if the windows were blocked off. Storage space in the staff was also looked at.

The Genealogy Room is in the final stage of downsizing the collection. We will be keeping the Vermont items and the newspapers. A plan for access from the mezzanine and repurposing of the room for small meeting space is one of the top priorities.

Jim commented on the mezzanine rail as we walked through the mezzanine. The rail could be replaced with thin gauge study metal to allow better view of programs on the main floor. The idea of mezzanine expansion resurfaced but on a smaller scale than 1998.

The Main Room was viewed with an eye towards the future use of Libraries as Community centers and the developing technologies. Computer access is a top priority but not in the center space. We talked about comfortable furniture, better lighting, places to hang public art exhibits, signage, best location for collection presently on the main floor, optimizing on the window view and a larger space for the allowance of beverages.

The non print collections cannot be moved from the main floor until a solution is found for the computers.

Jane asked if we needed the dome lights and Jim thought that advance have been mad ein lighting since our last retrofit.

Storage space was mentioned again in the staff office.

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Jim's advice was to make a 1, 2 and 3 year plan and a subset plan within each year. There are some things like industrial strength modular storage units that can be done easily and inexpensively without infringing on future plans. He suggested that we make a list of those things. Other decisions like the computers on the main Floor are the drivers that will impact future plans.

For planning, he suggested working backwards 10 years for different projects and costs. He said it is worth looking at different type of HVAC and technology incentives such as electric heat pumps that have made a quantum leap in efficiency in recent years. Funding may be available and Efficiency Vermont is a good place to start.

He said we should research what other libraries are doing and update our list from 2012.

7. Other: None

8. Adjournment: Pam adjourned the meeting at 5:50PM

NEXT MEETING: The B&G committee will meet jointly with the Planning committee on Tuesday February 3, 2015 at 8:30am.

Submitted by:

Therese Marcy

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