

**Brooks Memorial Library**  
**Buildings and Grounds Committee**

Monday, April 26, 2021 8:30 AM - 9:30 AM (EST)

**MINUTES**

In attendance remotely: Jenny Rowe, acting chair; Jane Southworth; Elizabeth Tannenbaum; Starr LaTronica; Jeanne Walsh; Lindsay Bellville

- 1) Call to Order at 8:39.
- 2) Agenda/Changes or additions: none.
- 3) Approval of Minutes of March 29, 2021: moved by Jane, seconded by Elizabeth, approved.
- 4) Public Comment: none.
- 5) Old Business

- Review and update project list:

Upstairs hallway carpeting and strip/waxing are done. Starr has a lead on a wallpaper stripper, no contact yet.

Billy Meier is working on the mammoth tusk, has been back to take more measurements, and will create a free-standing support for it rather than the wall mount. He regrets that the tusk was filled with plaster years ago -- not the current standard of preservation work.

Soffit repair to be completed by the town will also include encapsulation of the light-colored horizontal strip above the ground floor windows. That strip contains asbestos. Stucco is the most cost-effective material to use, and may be a choice for encapsulation. That strip is also the most likely place to install a building sign. If the sign is ready, the scissor lift doing the repair work could be used. The town will also wash the windows using the lift.

Starr will discuss the sign with the city planner. Thought should be given to a sign for the back door as well. Perhaps art installations could be added to the two vertical stretches of brick on the sides of the front facade. The building's modern style lends itself to public art. Starr has a super-sized blue bear in mind as an example.

Regarding the ongoing discussion of adding space to the building: The Historical Society is still interested in a joint project and will confer with Starr. Starr will also confer with the town planner about whether we could hire an engineer to assess the building structure with a third floor in mind. Jane suggested inviting Bob Stevens to a committee meeting for his opinion.

More space in the library would mean more room for the "library of things," such as the tool library idea and the e-bikes. Other committees may have other ideas for using additional space, and the strategic planning process may also produce ideas from the community. The possibility of expanding in West Brattleboro or some other location needs to be assessed alongside the possibility of expanding on Main Street.

- Status of summary and pricing of furniture needs post-pandemic: **Lindsay requested the purchase of a wooden tabletop book display for Youth Services, for \$400. The committee approved the purchase from the Board Project funds allocated by the board.**

There are no other purchases decided on yet. Starr will be asking staff to survey the furniture now in storage to see what should be returned to library use, and what discarded and replaced.

There is approx. \$4600 in the Brooks Building Fund that could be used for items such as computer station surrounds.

- Status of Board funding pre-approved for committee use: Jenny working on confirming the exact amounts allocated from Board Projects, and now remaining.

6) New Business: none.

7) Set next meeting: Tues May 25, 8:30 AM

8) Adjourned at 9:27 on a motion from Elizabeth, second by Jane.