

Building Committee Minutes
5/21/2020

In Attendance – Bethany Zerbe (Board President), Priscilla Popp (committee chair), Lorie Ames, Christine Narowski, Jessica Pacciotti (Library Director), Ron Kirsop (PLS Executive Director). Meeting was held virtually.

7:59PM Priscilla Popp called the meeting to order

A discussion began based on the newest information from Bero Architecture on the feasibility of beginning our construction project as soon as possible, rather than waiting for final approval from the Dormitory Authority for the grant. Various points were presented.

Ron Kirsop spoke about the process that the grant goes through. The grant has been approved by the Pioneer Library System as well as New York State's Division of Library Development. Ron Kirsop also related the newest figure that the Perry Public Library has been preliminarily approved to receive. It is currently submitted to the New York Dormitory Authority and in the process of being reviewed for final approval.

Director Pacciotti presented the newest information from Bero, including the estimated project timeline of 140 consecutive days, during which the stairs would be out of service for an estimated three months. Director Pacciotti was concerned about this timeline, as it was longer than her initial estimates.

Committee members had a number of different concerns regarding the non-guaranteed nature of the construction grant funds, as well as the fact that only a single bid was received, though multiple were solicited. Benefits of going forward now include

1. Keeping the 2020 prevailing wage over the 2021 prevailing wage
2. The library is closed already due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and the construction can overlap the period of time where the library is already closed.

Funding has already been approved by two of the three agencies that approve it, construction funds have been earmarked in the state budget for 2021. Both of these signs seem to decrease the risk of the funding being denied at the Dormitory Authority. Ron Kirsop also said that the Dormitory Authority could have closed the applications prior to submission if they were anticipating funding being lowered or denied.

The committee discussed that Director Pacciotti must come up with alternate funding sources if the grant funding falls through. Director Pacciotti assured that she already had several ideas.

Director Pacciotti officially recommended to the committee that in her opinion it was of the most benefit to go forward with the project as soon as possible instead of waiting. This recommendation seconded the recommendation from Bero Architecture. Bethany Zerbe wanted it noted that this represents both of the library's hired experts recommending going forward.

Lorie motioned that the Library goes forward with the project, Chris Norowski seconded. Bethany Zerbe, Lorie Ames, Chris Narowski voted Aye, Priscila Popp voted Nay.

Director Pacciotti will contact Bero to begin the process of getting the process started, as well as asking Bero if they can issue some kind of statement about the safety of the stairs and walkway as is. Director Pacciotti will also look into getting reviews of the work Catanary Construction.

Director Pacciotti also informed the board that the Village has begun the process of enforcing their sign laws, relevant due to the signs on the library's property line. Director Pacciotti also noted that the parking lot is due for sealing and re-striping, which is covered in the budget. A quote will be solicited for that with the goal of completing the sealing after completion of the stair project.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:48pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Jessica Pacciotti