

Greenville Public Library Resource Allocation Panel Meeting December 20, 2021

The Resource Allocation Panel Ad Hoc committee met at the library on Monday, December 20, 2021. The meeting was called to order by Jane Wilhite. Committee members present were Chance Vohlken and Kyle Littlefield. Other people present were Jo Keillor and Dale Martin.

There was discussion pertaining to the purpose of this committee. It was created to look at options for how to meet the demands of library services. The current building/location does not meet these needs. The entire board has been looking at where we are lacking in meeting expectations of what our library should provide. It has been apparent that it is the constraints of our current building that are causing those gaps.

The options that have been considered are:

- Stay at current location and make repairs to current structure
- Add on to the current location
- Build a new structure at a new location

The current location is not ADA compliant and the maintenance needs are cumbersome/expensive. Staying here will not help us meet the needs of the patrons.

The property to the west of the library had been discussed as potential site for expansion. However, that property has recently sold and is not available to the library. There was discussion on possibly building to the south and closing the alley. There are utilities that run under that alley which makes it a much more difficult/costly option. The architects were contacted about possible expansions that would work within our current boundaries. The options they provided did not give adequate expansion while retaining the historical value of the building.

A lengthy discussion was had on the option of building a new structure on a new site. We considered sites the city had told us may be available and which of those sites would best serve the needs of our patrons.

This option will allow us to meet library expectations into the future. There are difficult ramifications however. The patrons, community, board members, and city officials have expressed concerns about what will happen to the historic building. And, this option will be expensive.

This led into a discussion on our next steps. We discussed fundraising needs. The capital campaign would most likely be headed by the Friends of the Library group. There are some funds that we currently have available with the Nancy Law accounts. And, the city has retained a grant writer that we will have access to.

There is/will be a need to have a presentation to show the city council. (And, potentially to various community groups) This presentation will include the facility's issues, the history of how the board has been dealing with library needs, and options that have been considered. It will be created with input and support from others on the board and the library leadership.

This committee will make a recommendation to pursue a new building to the Library Board Trustees at its monthly meeting on Jan. 13, 2022.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:15.

Submitted by Jane Wilhite