

**ROCKPORT SELECT BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY MARCH 24, 2016
7:00 P.M.
ROCKPORT OPERA HOUSE**

Present: Chair William (Bill) Chapman, Vice-Chair Kenneth McKinley, Tracy Lee Murphy, Geoffrey Parker and Owen Casas. Also present: Richard C. Bates, Town Manager; Jan Rosenbaum, Chair of the Ad Hoc Library Planning Committee (ADLPC); Lynda Clancy, the press; and members of the public

- I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER – Bill Chapman, Chair called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

- II. AD HOC LIBRARY PLANNING COMMITTEE
 - a. Presentation and Approval of the Architect for the Library

Bill – the purpose of this meeting is to receive a report from the AHLPC.

Jan – he said that he gave the other members of the committee the night off and that he would make their presentation. He read a statement that he had prepared. (See attached.) Reed received 75% of the vote on the first ballot and was chosen as second by the rest of the members. Therefore, we reached a consensus that Reed is our choice.

Owen – I am overwhelmed with all of the things that the committee encapsulated in their report.

Jan – Reed and Company has previous experience with thirty other libraries in the state either by building or renovating them. As Ben Blackmon said they speak library. They understand how people use a library. Their rendering of the memorial park makes it more usable and friendly. They seem to be people that we could have an equal partnership with.

Owen – I was not a big fan of moving the monuments and am pleased that they are adding a reverence to them.

Jan – there are presently three monuments in that park.

Owen – I am happy to know that the public has been so engaged in the process. What is their input?

Jan - it is our responsibility to help them understand the start and stop of a non-profit. We are all very engaged. It is extremely important that we are transparent. We are looking at what the Library Committee came up with for their spacing needs. No one will be left out of the process.

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Bill – I am really impressed by the process and the dedication that the committee has put into this project. We owe them a deep heartfelt thank you.

Jan – it is now time for the Select Board and the Library Committee to say how to proceed.

Ken – I haven't had the opportunity to view the presentations. I am pleased to hear that the committee came to a consensus on the outcome. How do the other libraries that they have built stack up to in size to the Town of Rockport?

Jan - some of the libraries have been smaller and some have been larger. Some are community centers as well. Reed and Company is flexible and knowledgeable.

Rick – I interviewed them when we were doing the work this past spring and we chose to use CES. I was very impressed with them then. I felt that they were the one to be chosen for this part of the process. They went above and beyond my expectations.

Geoff – regarding their community involvement, they brought Cape Elizabeth through some very difficult times when they were trying to get a new library there.

Jan – all six firms showed a considerable amount of attention to what is needed for the Town of Rockport.

Bill – the committee has been so helpful and we have all of the meetings on livestream. Congratulations to Geoff for all of his hard work and bringing us into the 22nd century.

Geoff – seventy-five to two hundred people have viewed the meetings via live stream and twenty of them actually watched as the meeting was happening.

Bill – we now have a record and don't have to rely on our memory or notes.

Jan – as a result of this I knew that I could pay more attention to the actual meeting and not have to take notes at the same time.

Bill – does anyone in the audience want to add any comments?

Paul Charbonneau – I want to voice my appreciation for all the work of the committee. I believe that we are turning a corner and am encouraged by the interest of the people of the Town. We are on our way.

Sally Cook – I have learned incredible amounts of information that is fair and I am full of appreciation, especially to you, Tracy, for changing your mind about the site.

Tracy – John Sholz has been an immense help and freely gave a lot of his time to us. He gave us very professional information to help us make a decision. He told us not to fear a three story library. He built one in Belfast. I went to that Library, to the one in Gray,

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which he renovated and made an addition to it and to the library in Cape Elizabeth. His help has made it so much better as he has the terminology and that has been a huge help to us.

Jan – I am going down to meet Reed this week. I have invited John to go along with me.

Bill – I understand that a lot of members want to stay on and help see the process through.

Jan – a lot of the members could be very valuable.

Bill – wants to see something that they can take to the voters in November.

Rick – I see them breaking into subcommittees. We have one shot at this. At this time we have momentum on our side.

Ken – I hope that everyone would like to stay on the committee. This is a turning point for us. We have one opening available as one person had resigned from the original committee and we should fill it.

Geoff – you should identify an area of strength and cultivate it.

Owen – I was skeptical that you could accomplish this in such a compressed time frame. You picked a great chair for the committee.

Tracy – he is also chair for the Budget Committee.

Ken – he is a very dedicated chair.

Bill – we should also thank Dora and Tom for giving up time with their spouses.

Jan – and Meg Barkley who was a tremendous help.

Kenneth McKinley made a motion that we engage Reed and Company Architects of Portland to move forward with the design of a new library for Rockport and to instruct the Town Manger to negotiate an agreement with them. Geoffrey Parker seconded the motion.

Owen – what are the time frames for getting this on the ballot?

Jan – we need a firm concept and cost estimates by July 1st. This is the reason I am going to Portland to see Reed to get something firm to bring back to the Board.

VOTE: 5 FOR – 0 OPPOSED

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Bill – this isn't on the agenda, but we should split our April 11th meeting into two meetings or we will be there until midnight. We should postpone part of it until April 19th. I see on our schedule where the ballot doesn't go to the printer until April 29th.

Ken – talked about the Road Acceptance Ordinance and that the ORC had looked at it and hope to have it on the ballot in June. We would need to have a public hearing.

Owen – all I can think about is the young man who told us about his kid going through the snow to get to the bus stop.

Ken – we are not looking at changing the ordinance at this time but looking into a grandfather clause.

Lynda Clancy – is this item on the agenda tonight?

Bill – the policy is that we can discuss other items, but not vote on items that are not on the agenda.

There was a lot of discussion by the Board about deadlines for public hearings, notices and that this would need to be reviewed by the Planning Board.

Rick – was there a quorum at the ORC meeting? There needs to be a public hearing.

Ken – yes, there was a quorum present at the ORC Meeting.

Rick - We need to do our research and see if it is possible to put this on the April 11th meeting and to have the Planning Board have another meeting to hear the proposal. It is silly not to do this.

Tracy – it has to go before the Planning Board and they have already had their meeting this month and don't meet again to after our meeting. They will also have to advertise as a public hearing.

Ken – suggested that they use the Bangor Daily Newspaper instead of the Courier as it says that we have to use a local newspaper and they are local.

Bill & Tracy – we will need to look into this.

Ken – we can get it on the agenda for April 11th and bring it up then.

III. ADJOURN

Tracy Murphy moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 P.M. Kenneth McKinley seconded the motion. VOTE: 5 FOR – 0 OPPOSED

Respectfully submitted,

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LINDA M. GREENLAW
TOWN CLERK as RECORDING SECRETARY