

# Rockport Public Library Ad Hoc Planning Committee

## Meeting Minutes

April 20, 2016

### Opening

The meeting of the Rockport Public Library Ad Hoc Planning Committee was called to order at 11:00 am on April 20, 2016 at the Town Office by Jan Rosenbaum.

\*Note: the AHPLC meetings which occur at the Opera House venue will be televised and recorded using Rockport Live Stream, accessed via the town office link:

<http://livestream.com/Rockportmaine>

### Present

Voting Members: Ann Filley; Jan Rosenbaum; Tracy Murphy; Joe Sternowski; Erik Frederick; and Stephanie Kumble; ex-officio, Library Director, Ben Blackmon.

Absent: Heather Mackey; Eric Denny

Guests: Town Manager, Richard Bates; members of the public.

### Agenda items

Minutes of 04/06/16 accepted with corrected spelling of Erik Frederick's name

Report from Public Contact Group:

- FAQ's Chapter 2 was completed and sent out via news outlets, Facebook, library and library website and will replace Chapter 1 posters
- Bookmark used at library was updated to also reflect the choice of Reed and Co.
- Overview of the selection of Reed and Co. sent out via email newsletter to library patrons and article to news outlets
- Currently working on article for Library Newsletter, coming out in late April with a positive and excited focus of the work that is being completed.
- Also working on response to the "Why not renovate" question that has been asked regarding the extreme building conditions.

Old Business:

Jan acknowledged that the last meeting of 04/06/16 with Reed & Co. got out of hand when the discussion turned towards size of library vs. costs of library construction vs. what voters would approve. Jan stated that one member of the AHLPC approached the

Select Board to ask for clarification on what is the goal of the committee? Jan stated that the response from SB at the 04/19 meeting was essentially not to design a building that will just pass and be approved, but to thoughtfully continue the work of the AHLPC as we have been assigned, but also to keep in mind that we must be flexible. The work of the AHLPC with the architects will need to look at programming needs, space needs and to maintain a balance of needs vs. wants as well as growth. Jan also mentioned that Reed & Co. responded well to hearing different points of view and concerns, as long we can come to a consensus as a community. Jan mentioned that the AHLPC would be seeing additional concepts for a new building along with site discussions with Michael King, the landscape architect at the next meeting.

#### Further discussion

It was mentioned that a construction manager is important as well as understanding the need to look for ways to manage costs and to stay within parameters of the project. Also important is to keep in mind efficiencies and being flexible as well as being and advocate for the best library for the town. If the park refurbishments were not completed at this time, would that be a savings? The costs of the site work would be more expensive if completed later and it was determined that both interior and exterior are both very important, especially with access and safer parking and walking as part of the design.

#### Public comment:

A member of the public raised the question of the article 4 citizen's petition and the Select Board vote, at which point the question was referred to Town Manager and Select Board for appropriate response. And a reminder that no other site is being considered for the library. One member commended the work of the committee.

No other emails were received by the Public Contact Group

#### Announcements:

After the meeting on April 27, Jan will be gone for the next 30 days and Joe S. as co-chair will be responsible for meeting agendas, etc.

Reed anticipates two meetings for stakeholders and tentatively those dates are May 25 and June 8, not set times at this point. These will be scheduled at the Opera House.

Ben mentioned that he had the opportunity to tour the Thomas Memorial Library with Cynthia Lobenstein, which is the most current remodel by Reed & Co. He highly recommends a visit.

## **AHLPC Meeting schedule**

- Meeting schedule
  - 04/27/2016 11:00 am Opera House
  - May's meetings to be determined by AHLPC

## **Adjournment**

**Meeting was adjourned at 12:15 pm by Jan Rosenbaum. The next meeting will be at 11:00 am on April 27, 2016, Rockport Opera House.**

Minutes submitted by: Ann Filley

Approved by: Committee on April 27, 2016