

## **Strategic Planning & Building and Grounds Committee Meeting Minutes from June 19, 2024**

Stacy Lane began the meeting at 3pm. Dave Diveley, Red Redinger, Lauren Clark Hill, and Katie Earnhart were in attendance.

The committee meeting was called to discuss examples of outdoor enhancements and potential costs from the architects who built our current facility. Enhanced outdoor enhancements were one of the strategic initiatives that came from the board visioning sessions and patron feedback.

The document from the architects included a satellite image of the library's property and the space we could potentially use for future projects. Katie estimated the square footage of the identified space. While the architects labeled the potential spaces as Maintenance/Storage, Adult Program Area, and Children's Program Area the board doesn't need to follow those designations, nor do we have to make use of the entire areas as labeled.

Space estimations for the labeled areas are as follows: Maintenance Area at 9,120 sq/ft, Adult Program Area at 4,480 sq/ft, and Children's Program Area at 9,000 sq/ft.

In addition to identifying the space available, the architects also provided us with examples of outdoor spaces that they have built for other libraries and community centers and a rough cost estimate per square foot. These examples included amphitheaters, gardens, patios, and maintenance buildings.

The committee discussed the examples and the library's needs. The purpose of the meeting was to determine priorities in terms of the outdoor enhancements and a maximum project cost the committee was comfortable with exploring. There were no specific installments selected as this is just an initial discussion to determine a maximum cost to be included in our financial analysis project.

The committee determined that the library needs roughly a 30x50 foot storage unit and that we would likely erect it on the southwest end of the property. Because of the location and use of the facility, matching aesthetics is not crucial, nor do we need the facility to be climate-controlled. The main use of this facility would be to store lawn equipment, have a work bench area for custodial staff, and have the potential to store a bookmobile or library vehicle in the event we opt for that project. A storage facility is a must and will be a top priority.

The committee also discussed the other examples provided by the architects and opted to avoid a patio feature as we already have that with our current facility. However, the idea of having an outdoor program space such as an amphitheater was preferred. Finally, the committee agreed that having a dedicated children's exploration and program area would be ideal.

After calculating potential costs based on the examples and estimates provided by the architects it was determined that the following priorities be used to determine tax rate estimates.

1. A 30x50 sq/ft storage facility plus one outdoor enhancement of around 4,400 sq/ft that would be used as a programming or performance space. These two projects should not exceed \$1 million.
2. The above-listed projects plus a second outdoor enhancement not to exceed \$1.5 million.
3. The above-listed storage facility plus two outdoor enhancements not to exceed \$2 million.

These three costs will be provided to the financial advisor, along with cost estimates of the other identified strategic initiatives so that a financial forecast can be done. After the financial forecast, the advisor will provide the board with potential tax rates needed for the desired projects. The board can then take those various tax rates and make decisions to add or remove projects to get to a reasonable tax rate to take to the voters.

No action was taken at this meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 3:52pm.