

New Library Ad. Hoc Meeting Minutes

January 7, 2020

In Attendance: *Rich Santos, Barb Santos, Craig Leighty, Glorie Lott, Dale Smith, Doug Thomas, Arnold Fitzpatrick Jr., Andrea Freyler, Joy Kick, Angela Lowery, Nancy Huffaker, Yolanda Mendrake and Brittany Matous*

Call to Order: 6:05 PM

Opening Remarks

Consisted of everyone introducing themselves and stating why they love the Library.

Potential Sites for a Library

Per Dale Smith, the city owns the sheriff's station as the county was supposed to transfer ownership of the property. Expresses some concerns regarding the site being too small and parking being a potential issue. Dale suggested perhaps the city should look at a previous site, the maintenance yard, to build a large library that would have ample parking as parking is an issue for Brentwood.

Nancy Huffaker suggested we build on to the site that we have now. Many in the room object to the proposal as the current site (located at Freedom High School) is not ideal as it is out of the way for many people in the community. Parking is also an issue, as highlighted by Andrea Freyler, during school hours.

Glorie Lott suggests a site downtown and is city/county owned. Possible suggestions are; the old Ace Hardware Store or an old church site. Per Brittany the Ace Hardware Store is not an option as the city has taken over that structure to be used as storage. Old church site was dismissed as an option due to the owner overpricing the land.

Brittany asked if the group favored the sheriff's station that was being proposed by the city and the consensus was to wait for the city to investigate the site and then proceed from there. This led into a discussion on whether it would be prudent to use the existing structure or to tear it down and rebuild. Per Yolanda there is asbestos on the site and removal will be costly. Per Brittany, Andrea, Arnold and Nancy the city has no money in its budget to pay for a Library at this point in time. Currently the county supplies 35 hours to keep the library open and the city provides 5 hours.

A suggestion was made to find out when the city plans on investigating the site. Per Brittany the city plans on spending \$25,000 on investigating the site and to render an architectural design.

Doug suggested that the library could be a Joint Use facility for the community. Brittany and Andrea have been in contact with Tim Lear from the Oakley Seniors and Tim would be willing to partner on a project for a joint community space. This suggestion was well received by everyone. There was additional talk on whether we could work with other groups to raise funds and awareness for a Library in the community.

Misc. Topics/New Business

Marketing the library to the community was discussed. There is a consensus that without a plan from the city that marketing an idea would not be prudent. Brittany and Glorie are of the opinion that marketing would be great for the Library. Angela expressed an opinion that there must be outreach and it should be done in different areas across Oakley. Angela also stated that all marketing should have a positive spin.

Measure K was brought up and there was discussion of the pro's and con's of having a new library funded by the taxpayers. There was also additional discussion on how Measure K was executed, and frustration was expressed on how the project did not receive the number of votes to pass. Craig provided Brittany documents pertaining to Measure K as well as a contact sheet for those who were involved with the project. It is also suggested to get a hold of persons involved in Measure K and invite them to meetings.

Fundraising was brought up but not discussed in detail.

A suggestion by everyone was that Brittany should contact Don McCormick and Brian Montgomery to see if either one of those persons would be willing to speak to the group. Craig stated that he would be willing to sit in on a meeting with Brittany and Brian.

Meeting Adjourned: 8:06 PM