

New Library Committee Meeting Minutes

March 3, 2020

In Attendance: *Martha Berry, Jayme Stoops, Billiee Saengchalern, Gloria Lott, Mike Dupray, Arnold Fitzpatrick Jr., Angela Lowery, Joy Kick, Dale Smith and Brittany Matous. With special guest Bryan Montgomery.*

Call to Order: 6:02 PM

Recap. Of Last Meeting

Went over our meeting minutes from our February 4th meeting.

City Manager Bryan Montgomery

Begin his presentation by showing a video on how government money is used in projects.

The City of Oakley refinanced on their debt for funds for the Recreation Center. Per the “bucket” that that funds were in, the \$4 million that was available could have been used to fund a new library. Instead the city decided to use that funding to build the recreation center. When asked why that decision was made, Mr. Montgomery stated that Measure K was asking for \$20 million and \$4 million would not have covered a new library.

Members of the group asked Mr. Montgomery if there were any funds for a library in the city and Mr. Montgomery stated that there is no many available build a library. Currently the city council set aside \$25,000 to explore the possibility of converting the Sheriff’s Station into a Library.

Mr. Montgomery suggested that we attend the 2020 Strategic Planning committee to see if monies could be set aside for a new library. The proposed site, the Sheriff’s station, is riddled with asbestos and it will cost \$250,000 to remove the building.

Several members asked why the Muro Property (where the Rec. Center was built) was not considered to build a new library. Per Mr. Montgomery stated that the site was not ideal due to O’hara Park School and issues with parking. Currently there are only two sites that the city would put a library: the Sheriff’s Station and at the Civic Center.

Currently, the estimated cost for a 10,000 square foot library is \$20 million. There are also the operating costs, which are estimated to be \$3,000 a month, plus janitorial services and extended library hours. Mr. Montgomery suggested a parcel tax to fund the project or a bond measure. However, he felt that fire tax needed to pass before the city would consider a library tax. When members suggested doing partial fundraising efforts and partial city funds, Montgomery was skeptical about that working. Members also asked about joint efforts (Community Center/Senior Center/Library) Montgomery stated that the projects would cost more money and that the city has already spent over \$100,000 on the senior center.

When asked he (Brian Montgonery) was 100% behind getting Oakley a library he responded with “Absolutely”.

Mr. Montgomery left at 7:15pm stating other commitments.

Misc. New Library Discussion

After Mr. Montgomery left Mike Duprey stated that he thinks that all service organizations should get behind a new library project to fundraise, market and support a library for Oakley. Specifically he stated that there should be a 501(c)3 for service groups in which funds can be raised for the Oakley Library.

Arnold Fitzpatrick stated that we should work with other cities and large donors and become grant writers to raise as much as possible for a library. Arnold also stated that Friends of Oakley Library is a 501(c)3 can have a separate account to specifically be used for a new library. He also stated that we need a precise plan for a library so that we can start to raise funds and get the discussion started in the community.

Gloria Lott stated that despite what Mr. Montogermey stated, Oakley is different from other places and fundraising might go over well rather than a ballot measure. She stated that if we could come up with a plan that included all persons in Oakley regardless of background and socioeconomic status that we could have a successful project. She emphasized that the plan (for the library and fundraising plans) need to appeal to everyone to work.

Suggestions were made for subgroups to handle specific To Do items and that there should be pamphlets with a call to action for a new library. There were also suggestions for booths at various community events and that we should have giveaways (luggage tags, stickers, etc.) to advertise the need for a stand alone library.

Fundraising Possibilities Sheet – Gloria Lott

Gloria did some research and handed out a sheet that listed some fundraising possibilities for the new library committee:

- Bookfair (scholastic)
- Author Book Signing Event
- Art Exhibit
- 5k Race/Fun Run
- Live Music Event
- Board Game Tournaments
- Book Club
- Silent Auction
- Coffee/Bake Sale
- Food Trucks
- Raffle
- Guessing Challenges
- Scavenger Hunts
- Ice Cream Social
- Crowdfunding
- Engraved Bricks in Front of the Library
- Pet Costume Parade
- Craft Nights

Getting Senior Student involvement from Freedom for their community hours for graduation

Meeting Adjourned: 7:50 PM