

Northville District Library
Board Study Session on Space Planning
Jan. 7, 2017 at 10:00 a.m.
Carlo Meeting Room

Attending: Julie Herrin, Anne Mannisto, Michael McEvoy, Alan Somershoe, Michael and Judy DeFrancesco, Joe and Carol Oldenburg, Martha Nork, Deborah Stanifer, Jean Hansen, Bob Sochacki, Dorie Freebury, Laura Curtsinger, Mary Brissette, Karen Fehl, Judy McIntosh, Maureen Simari, Samantha Downes, Wendy Mutch, Paul Snyder, Carla Eggert and Joe Corriveau.

Alan Somershoe spoke to the group and reported that several groups have had meetings regarding the future planning of the Library including the Board, the Friends and the staff. This meeting was called so that all of the groups could meet together to discuss future planning. Alan went over a document outlining the issues that we hoped to address with the planning study done by Kimberly Bolan and Associates (KBA), including the need for an additional meeting room, additional study rooms, more tables and chairs for Library patrons, better storage, demonstration and teaching space for digital resources, additional staff space, and a place for digital media equipment, special circulating collections and low vision equipment.

Alan then reviewed the planning process over the last year and discussed considerations from the Board and Friends. These included a plan to expand library space for a meeting room by building out under the overhang, and the belief that the Friends Gift Store would not work for selling books.

Julie Herrin presented a document outlining the Library staff response to the KBA study including those items the staff would like to see done and those that the staff does not wish to pursue at this time. Anne Mannisto presented information from Chris DeBear of Library Design, who came out to look at the Friends Gift Shop and advised that 60 to 70 shelves of books could be displayed in the space. There was discussion about this.

A document was also distributed and reviewed outlining the two proposed options going forward. Option A is to keep the Book Cellar as the Friends space to sell used books and have the space renovated. Add public meeting space with an addition to the Library built under the fireplace area and use the current Gift Shop as meeting space. Option B is to remodel the Gift Store to make it a Used Book Store and renovate the Book Cellar space into a digital demonstration and meeting room space. There was discussion about both of these options.

Several Friends in attendance spoke, noting that the Friends feel that they and the used book operations, that generate money for children's programs, are not appreciated. There was discussion about this.

Board of Trustee Chairperson Robert Sochacki spoke to the group to thank the Friends members and Library staff for attending the meeting. There are a number of stakeholders who need to be considered, particularly the community that we serve, but he wants to make clear that the opinions of the Library staff and the Friends are all being given serious consideration.

A list of additional action steps was created.

- Find out which gift shop volunteers might be interested in volunteering if the store is changed over to used book sales.
- Contact the City of Northville to discuss our expansion plans.
- Location of book carts.
- Meeting room expansion estimates.
- Find out the ADA requirements if the store is converted to a used book area.
- Discuss ordering tables and chairs for the Storytime room with Library Design.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:15 p.m.