

Barrington Public Library
Trustee Special Meeting Minutes
February 8, 2022

APPROVED

Present: Trustees: Leigh Elliott (Chair), Karen Towne Vice Chair), Susan Frankel (Treasurer) Karolina Bodner (Secretary), Robert Drew, Lydia Cupp, Joyce Cappiello (Alternate Trustee). Melissa Huette (Library Director). Residents: Susan Gaudiello and Roger Gingrich. SMP Architects, Jason Lacombe and Ryan Cloutier.

6:36 Chair Leigh called the meeting to order.

This special meeting was called with architects of SMP to discuss options for a new library building taking into consideration previous plans, community input, and the rise in construction costs in the past 2 years due to Pandemic conditions.

Jason of SMP stated that construction costs have gone up 21% in the last 2 years due to challenges in the supply chain, rise in the cost of materials, and sub-contractors raising wages in response to labor shortages. Therefore a smaller new building will probably not cost less than the previous plans.

There was discussion of working strategically with Police, Fire, Recreation, youth, senior and other Barrington groups to find where our community mutual needs and visions overlap, and how this might affect strategic planning of new building projects.

The Board was reminded that the Library Foundation has focused on reaching out to groups in Barrington to get their feedback on ways the Library benefits their group and their thoughts regarding a new Library building. Also the information from the Envision Barrington meetings 5 years ago suggested visions of community members, especially for more meeting spaces.

The Board discussed the question posed by SMP architects , "Where do we go from here?". Jason said that, realistically, if we want to go ahead with a new building project for the 2023 March election, we would need to have plans finalized by September.

It was decided that the Board will take the information presented into consideration at the next Trustee meeting on Feb. 15.

8:05 Karen made a motion to adjourn this special meeting, seconded by Lydia, and the motion passed.

Next BPLibrary Trustee Meeting February 15, 2022, 6:00pm

Minutes recorded by Karolina Bodner, secretary

