

Freetown Library Planning Committee

Minutes of Wednesday May 9, 2018

James White Library  
6:30 pm

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*J. Brown*  
Town Clerk

Present: Lucille Rosa, Paul Lubin, Sara Valero, Linda Fournier, Chrysti Dufort

Absent: Paula Rose

I. Meeting called to order 6:40 pm

Next Meeting: Wednesday May 23, 2018, 6:30 pm at Hathaway Library

II. Introduce New Members: Sara Valero and Chrysti Dufort

III. Mrs. Rosa had submitted a request to the Board of Selectmen to put an article to supplement the funding of the planning and design grant on the warrant. The Board of Selectman did not approve the request. Another request may be made in the fall.

New members were informed about the work that the Library Planning Committee has done which included some of the following: application and receipt of \$15,000 grant to help with the Planning and Design phase, visits to other libraries, research into wants and needs of community members regarding a new library, identifying funding needs, submitting applications for funding, and drafting the Library Building Program

Members discussed needs of Freetown's current libraries some of which were: no bathroom at the Hathaway Library, no rooms for meetings, no meeting area for children's programs separate from areas where other patrons may need it to be quiet, and no room for expansion on either library's lot.

Members shared their observations from visits to other libraries and discussed ideas that may want to be considered in the planning of Freetown's new library. It was suggested that the Library Planning Committee set up some more visits to libraries with new buildings.

Veteran members explained the approval process and the funding to new members. There is currently \$30,000 available to help with costs of the Library Planning and Design Phase (\$15,000 in Grant Money and \$15,000 in a Town Account). Since an Owner's Project Manager is now required for the Library Planning and Design phase, more money is needed to get the planning portion complete so that members can submit a request for the construction grant. This grant was open for applications in January 2018 and is expected to be open again in 4 years (if not sooner). The committee would like to be ready to apply for the grant next time it's open for application so it's important to get the funding for the Planning and Design phase as we cannot apply for the construction grant until that is complete. Mrs. Rosa and the Town Accountant had worked together and found that the additional funding needed is \$170,000. The request to include this additional funding on the warrant was denied. A new request may be put in during the next Special Town Meeting in the fall. In the interim, members will work to complete the Library Building Program.

- IV. Members went over the Library Building Program. Any members who have not read it yet will read it before the next meeting.
- V. Motion to Adjourn – 7:23 pm by Lucille Rosa- Second of the Motion – Linda Fournier – Accepted

Respectfully submitted,

Chrysti Dufort