

Ramsdell Library Designer Selection Committee  
March 14, 2019, 12:00pm  
Mason Library Community Room, 231 Main Street, Great Barrington, MA

Meeting called to order by Sean Van Deusen at 12:00 pm.

Attendance: Ed Abrahams (EA), Amanda DeGiorgis (AD), Holly Hamer (HH), Patrick Hollenbeck (PH), Pedro Pachano (PP), Sean Van Deusen (SD)

Audience: 4

SD nominates EA as chair. PH second. Vote 6-0.

1. Discussion of the criteria for choosing a designer for ADA Improvements at Ramsdell Library per MGL, SS 44-58.

SD passed out MGL packet with details. Explained the committee is to study law and come up with RFP. SD proposes to come with example RFPs to next meeting to help form our RFP.

HH asked about Owner's Project Manager (OPM). SD clarified that this project is ONLY for ADA access to get into front door and not the larger renovation project.

EA asked overall budget – SD stated it was \$350,000 roughly. If price is more we will need to go back to Town Meeting.

HH asked for clarification on \$350,000– asked if can be used towards roof? SD said it depends but SD said that the roof is already allocated and taken care of.

EA asked about Archeological Study and if we need to be concerned with it. SD said it will be part of the process and will tell us if we need to do it. Will be discussed at later date.

PH brought up following: In 2016 Trustees Lauren Clark, Kathy Plungis, Patrick Hollenbeck, Amanda DeGiorgis and Jennifer Tabakin (JT) had meeting to talk about Ramsdell. JT's plan was to get ADA access into the front door. PH says MBLC recommended consultant, which happened last year (Kimberly Bolan and Associates). KBA recommended that ADA is a priority – do temp access in short term and in long term do towards to upper floors. Commission on Disabilities states temp ramp is temporary until it is permanent (no time limit).

SD stated that feasibility study must be done first and then will lead to instructions on the rest. PH presented information on temporary ramps. SD reminded committee of Mass Procurement Laws and that we need to follow the process. PH brought up grant process of Disability Commission. PH also said that he has person in Boston who will volunteer his time and materials to do it. SD said we will do this legally and make sure that it is part of larger fix.

Discussion continued about MBLC procedures versus Massachusetts General Law and which takes precedence.

HH suggests compromise that at the next meeting the committee has a conference call with Commission and also move forward with RFP process. HH will also bring information on Libraries and ADA.

EA set up next meeting March 28<sup>th</sup> at noon, Town Hall Meeting Room. PH will work on getting Commissioner to phone in or physically come

## 2. Citizen's Speak Time

Audience 1: Reminds committee that cell phone conference calls can be hard to hear. Asks that Board consider this and recommend that use physical phone system.

Audience 2: Why did it take two years to get to this point? EA said it is a question for Town Manager.

Audience 3: As taxpayer and interested in Economic Development, thinking about opportunity to be creative about utilization of taxpayer dollars between two libraries. Prices keep rising – suggests that if spending money to connect libraries and there is a need for transportation, creatively consider investing in bus service that is ADA compatible. This would give people who need access a constant link between Housatonic and GB. Make stops where ever needed. Would connect libraries and shopping. Suggests less expensive than having so many different projects and funds going. EA encouraged citizen to bring this to Selectboard.

Audience 4: Requests utilization of past studies and reports during the process and referred to ten year old plan. SD says we have full set of plan to rebuild whole building and will provide to RFP participants. PP asked if we have access and SD said he has full plan available.

## 3. Motion to adjourn PP, second HH. Vote 6-0. Meeting adjourned at 12:27pm

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Amanda M. DeGiorgis".

Amanda DeGiorgis