

Oregon Public Library Board SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, January 26, 2022 at 5:00 p.m.
Teleconference Meeting

1. **Call to Order** Jenny Nelson called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.
2. **Roll Call** Present were: President – Jenny Nelson, Vice President – Carrie Schudda, Treasurer – Laura Shtaida, Carlene Bechen (Village Board Rep), Coral Goplin, Kyle Severson, Owner’s Representative – Geoff Vine, Library Director – Jennifer Way, Technical Services Supervisor and Administrative Assistant – Laura Dewey (recorder), OCA Media (recorder). Not Present: Secretary – Leslie Bergstrom (School Board Rep).
3. **Adopt/Amend Agenda** Severson made the motion to adopt the agenda as written. Shtaida seconded. Motion carried 6-0.
4. **Community Input** There were no comments
5. **Consent Agenda**
 - a. Review and Payment of available Bills (Final 2021 invoices): Severson made the motion to approve the payment of Bills. Bechen seconded. Motion carried 6-0.
6. **Information Items**
 - a. Community Member Feedback on New Library: Emails forwarded by Village Board members were included in the packet along with new feedback the Library Board received since the last joint meeting. Instructors from the Greater Madison Writing Project are helping to facilitate 5th graders with a writing project about the new library focusing on civic engagement, critical thinking skills, and communicating.
 - b. Oregon Nature Alliance - Ecological assessment and restoration recommendations for the greater Keller Alpine Meadows Park Area, Oregon, WI: Goplin appreciates the work the Alliance has done and appreciates how much they care about the community and are willing to work with the Library Board to make the library the best it can be. Bechen echoed the sentiments and added appreciation for looking at the watershed areas both north and south of the Alpine site.
 - c. Soil Borings & Geotechnical Reports: Vine stated there were no concerns with the soil at the Alpine site and the preliminary reports did not identify anything out of the ordinary.
7. **Discussion and possible action items**
 - a. New Library Site Selection & Next Steps for Library Project Including Preliminary Site Layouts, Site-Specific Costs, and Upcoming Joint Meeting with the Village Board: Way pointed out the Site Comparison Background page with information provided by Elise Cruz with data from the Dane County Planning and Development GIS Specialist which shows there are 892 households with 467 children within ½ mile radius of the Brook Street site and 906 households with 679 children within ½ mile radius of the Alpine Parkway (Former School) Site. Vine explained the Site Analysis was done to identify the challenges and assign dollar amounts to both sites. Vine summarized the site analysis of Brook Street Library Only, Brook Street Combined with the Senior Center, and the Alpine Parkway scenarios. Relatively, the estimated Project Cost Increase would be \$2,254,001; \$4,303,966; and \$734,586 including escalation for the past 5 months. These estimated costs are very conservative and only include site-specific costs for the library. For the Brook Street Site, the costs do not include any of the expenses that will be incurred by the village for relocating the Post Office and the Senior Center. Vine sees the Alpine site as the only alternative that has room for future expansion and more flexibility for design. It is an opportunity to enhance the area with landscaping, prairie restoration, and connect pathways for continued recreational use of the park. Severson discussed that a library at the Alpine Site would be the best opportunity to benefit the community with a better library providing better services at a cost savings to the village. Nelson added that the Library Board is looking at efficient answers like geothermal and number of floors for staffing to keep the long-term costs down. Bechen said the Village Board is looking to the Library Board to give a recommendation. Shtaida suggested adding an executive summary for the Village Board and the public to summarize how the Library Board came to these conclusions. Goplin stated that with the money fundraised and the money provided by the Village, it is not fiscally responsible to give any recommendation to the Village Board except the Alpine Site. As trustees of the library, it is irresponsible to recommend any other choice but Alpine. Shtaida wants to hear what the 5th graders have to suggest for the new library because she wants to not have to build another new library for a few generations. Way will have a complete report ready for the Village Board on the

amount of funds available for the new library, which is just under \$12.7 million. Schudda appreciates the Oregon Nature Alliance and the Library Board is committed to working with them towards a shared vision.

Severson made a motion for the Library Board to recommend the Alpine Parkway Site (Former School Site) to the Village Board at the Joint Meeting on February 7th. Goplin seconded. Motion carried unanimously 6-0. Nelson thanked Geoff Vine, the Village Staff, and OPN for all of their hard work and dedication to the library project.

8. Closing and Future Agendas

- a. Joint Meeting with Village Board: Monday, February 7 at 5 PM at Village Hall
- b. Next Regular Meeting: Wednesday, February 9 at 5 PM via Zoom
- c. Request for future agenda items: none

9. Adjournment Bechen made the motion to adjourn at 6:33 p.m., seconded by Severson. Motion approved 6-0.