



The Board of Trustees Minutes

Facilities Committee Meeting

Date: March 2, 2021

Attendees:	<i>Trustees</i>	<i>Staff</i>	<i>Guests</i>
	Jeffrey Armstrong	Andrew Mangels	Duane Van Dyke
	Jennifer Darling	CJ Lynce	
	Jason Nolde	Jana Nassif	
	Will Perry		
	Robert Plantz		
	Elizabeth Sheehe		

The Board met in the Porter Room of Westlake Porter Public Library and by Zoom. Elizabeth Sheehe called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

Front Door Enclosure Project

Andrew Mangels introduced architect Duane Van Dyke, a former Library Trustee, who put together options to address the issues with the front doors of the Library. He is proposing putting doors on the curved wall at the main entrance. He provided two options – the first option adds a door near each end of the curved wall with windows in the middle. The second option adds the doors inside the vestibule. Both these options leave the sliding front doors where they are currently located.

Jason asked if, in the second option, the doors will open at the same time? Duane said yes, opening one door will likely cause the other doors to open at the same time, but it wouldn't be a direct air flow like it is now.

Elizabeth asked if it would be possible to have the doors on the ends of the curved wall and window all across the front? Duane said you could, but it might not be welcoming to have people come in through doors that are on the side of the vestibule.

Bob asked if we could remove the existing doors and replace them with revolving doors? If that is done, you would still need to have another door for ADA compliance and for people to enter with strollers, etc.

Jason asked if Duane looked at any options in the interior of the building? The tile wall might make things difficult.

Duane reviewed the updated estimate for the cost of the project, which is \$148,226. These costs could increase or decrease, depending on final prices and any issues that may arise during the project. Jason agreed it was a fair cost estimate.

Will asked if Duane considered rearranging the current doors? Duane said generally, the less pieces and parts you have to touch or move, the less expensive the project will be, so he didn't consider this because he didn't think it would be cost effective.

Andrew asked Duane if this problem could be addressed in the interior of the building and Duane thought it was worth pursuing. Andrew noted that \$150K is higher than we would consider spending to address the front doors, but we would consider other options. Duane will move forward with looking at options in the interior of the building.

Reading Garden Renovation

Andrew explained the reading garden is about 17 years old and not much has been done to it since it was created and hasn't necessarily had the proper on-going maintenance to keep it updated. We think there is an opportunity for more patrons to use the reading garden. The proposal from DERU Landscaping includes removing dead plant life and improving utilization of the space, including the creation of a children's area and pavers to encourage exploration. We also asked DERU to look at options for replacing the double metal doors that lead out of the garden and to add another sidewalk from the other set of doors to give us more flexibility. We still need to determine what we need to do with the tool shed. All the irrigation runs into the shed, so it may be difficult to remove.

The price estimate from DERU is \$70K. Will asked if we considered moving the wall out closer to the path to make the garden bigger. The wall is brick with embassy grade fencing, so it may be difficult and expensive to move. Jennifer suggested that we could do something with the space without moving the wall.

Jason commented that we need to improve access to the garden, stating it's not apparent to a lot of people that we have a reading garden. CJ noted that the entrances to the garden were located behind the stacks and were not easy to see and we should look into rearranging the stacks so the entrances to the garden are more obvious. It was asked if the reading garden was going to remain accessible only from the library or if we would open up exterior access? In the past, we've wanted the garden secure because of children's programs and materials – we didn't want people just walking into the garden from Center Ridge Road. The wall with tiles in the center of the garden will remain. Jason encouraged as much variation as possible in the seating within the garden.

Overall, based on the feedback received tonight, it seems like the Trustees like the idea and it is on the right track. The price is in line with expectations.

It was asked if the Friends might make a donation to help pay for the cost to renovate the garden? Will said that we could sell bricks or pavers. We could offer other opportunities to add memorials. Andrew stated these were good ideas and we need to get PR/Marketing involved to put together a sponsorship package. Elizabeth suggested running this program through the Foundation and the Foundation could possibly match all donations. Andrew noted that all donations currently in the garden have been recorded and will be incorporated into the renovations.

Other

Andrew informed the Board that Allison Motz, the Library's strategic planning consultant, is available to attend the March Board meeting. He proposes having the meeting begin at 6:00 pm instead of 6:30 pm. The Board was in agreement.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 7:53 pm.

Recorded by: Jana Nassif, WPPL Fiscal Officer	
Attested by:	
_____ Elizabeth Sheehe, WPPL Board President	_____ Jason Nolde, Board Secretary