

Wabash Carnegie Public Library

Meeting of Tuesday, February 15th, 2022

Falls Cemetery Chapel

745 Falls Ave, Wabash, IN 46992

5:30 p.m.

The Board of Trustees of the Wabash Carnegie Public Library met in regular session and through Zoom conference call at 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, February 15th, 2022. Notice was posted of this meeting pursuant to Indiana Code Sec. 5-14-1.5-5(a)(b). Members present were Charles Miller, presiding; Jim Widner; Rhonda Hipskind; Susan L. Baker; Mary Jo McClelland; Jeff Knee; and Bill Benysh. Also present was Ware Wimberly, Director, and Zachery Benedict of MKM architecture + design, and Kyleigh Hampton of Intrasect Technologies. Rob Burgess, Wabash Plain Dealer, was in attendance by Zoom.

CALL TO ORDER

Charles Miller called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

PRESENTATION/OVERVIEWS(S):

INTRASECT (Kyleigh Hampton)

Kyleigh Hampton of Intrasect Technologies presented information about the library's data-storage needs and a quote to upgrade the library's Datto storage device. The current device is 80% full, and so Intrasect recommended a higher-capacity storage device. It did not recommend keeping the existing equipment because of the amount of information the library needs to store. The upgrade also involved increasing the monthly storage charge to the library by about \$200.00 which is significant. Kyleigh and the trustees discussed the quote and Intrasect's reasons for recommending the upgrade

The trustees also learned that the stored information went back to 2014, and they asked whether the library needed to keep data that long. Kyleigh said Intrasect could identify data that could be deleted which might prolong the life of the existing equipment although it still would need to be replaced in the next few years. The trustees discussed their options and agreed to have Intrasect see what data could be deleted to prolong the existing equipment's life.

CONSENSUS AGENDA

The Consensus Agenda was presented and approved.

Action: Rhonda Hipskind moved to accept the consensus agenda, and Susan L. Baker seconded the motion. Motion passed.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

No report.

COMMITTEE REPORT

Park Department

Usage agreement for ballfields was updated.

OLD BUSINESS

Disc Cleaner Quote

The trustees and Ware reviewed the disc cleaner quote after additional information about DVD and CD usage was presented. The purpose of the cleaner is to buff out scratches in CDs and DVDs to extend their life spans and reduce replacement costs. The trustees discussed these factors and agreed to buy a new one.

Action: Rhonda Hipskind moved that the library purchase a new disc cleaner, and Bill Benysh seconded. Motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS

Expansion and Renovation project bids

Zach Benedict of MKM Architecture & Design, the trustees, and Ware reviewed the four bids for renovation and expansion that were received during the public meeting held on February 9, 2022. The lowest base bid was \$3,865,972.00 and the highest was \$4,587,000.00; with additions, the lowest bid became \$4,529,000.00 and the highest became \$5,323,000.00. Everyone expected the bids to be higher than the architect's original projection, but no one expected them to be that much higher. MKM recommended that the trustees reject all of the bids which they did.

Action: Bill Benysh moved, and Rhonda Hipskind seconded the motion to reject all four bids. Motion passed.

Following that, the trustees discussed their two options going forward. The first is to seek approval of a bond to bridge the gap between what the trustees were willing to spend from the library's reserves and the remaining cost of the project. The other is to renovate the existing building now and expand it sometime in the coming years. The trustees agreed that they should investigate the possibility of a bond before deciding on only renovating the building. The trustees agreed they would spend \$2,200,000.00, to be taken from the Library Improvement Reserve Fund (LIRF) and the BettieB Wimberly Gift Fund. Zach Benedict will contact Baker Tilly immediately to look into a bond for the library. The elevator modernization project still is scheduled to be completed in 2022.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT/ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATE

Farlow House

From the latest communications, Paul Hayden of Indiana Landmarks is working with the main office in Indianapolis on possible funding for moving the Farlow house.

Battle of the Books

Battle of the Books, which is a library program to promote reading, is coming in March. Two schools have chosen not to participate at the elementary level because the team coaches are not comfortable with some of the themes in three of the books: *Front Desk*; *The Girl Who Drank the Moon*; and *The Magic Misfits*. Trustees, staff, and Ware have had numerous discussions with the schools to try to find a solution short of withdrawing the books from the competition which is what the schools' coaches want. The library staff was opposed to doing this because the schools knew what the book choices were as long ago as the Fall of 2021 and they just now are objecting to them. The trustees agreed that the books will not be withdrawn from the competition and that the schools can decide whether or not to participate.

Evaluation Forms

The trustees and Ware reviewed revised evaluation forms. Trustees asked for the revised forms to come back to review and discuss at the March meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:23 p.m.

Action: Rhonda Hipskind moved, and Susan L. Baker seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:23 p.m. Motion passed.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tasha Veal, Circulation Assistant WCPL

& Ware W. Wimberly III, Executive Director