

## **WOLFEBORO PUBLIC LIBRARY LANDSCAPING**

### **COMMITTEE MEETING**

#### **BRADLEY ROOM**

Friday, August 20, 2021

Doug Smith opened the meeting at 9:05 a.m.

In attendance were Kathy Barnard, Joyce Davis, Deborah Long-Smith, Susan Poirier, John Sandeen, Cindy Scott, Doug Smith, Sabet Stroman, Dave Ford, and Nancy Bell.

John Sandeen noted a correction to the minutes of the meeting on June 25 to change the paragraph on page 2 regarding the 3D presentation to read looping video in place of recycling.

Kathy Barnard made a motion to accept the minutes as corrected. Joyce Davis seconded the motion. All present voted in favor.

#### **Old Business**

There was no old business to discuss.

#### **New Business**

##### **Introduction of Brian Kuchar and Brian Laverriere of Horsley Witten Group**

As this was the kickoff meeting for the Landscape Design project the representatives were interested in finding out about the expectations of the committee for the design. Brian Kuchar is the lead architect and Brian Laverriere will be the designer.

##### **Project Goals and Expectations:**

A list of suggestions made at the landscape design meeting of June 25 was provided.

- A flower garden for the front of the library which would include a grant for care of the garden and a plan for light maintenance.
- Restoring the wetland area with low maintenance plants is important.
- A quiet reading and story time area.
- Walk and bike Pathways.
- Stonewalls/Cow Path area
- Improving water catchment and reuse system
- Improving parking lot plan to provide for pedestrian flow to garden.
- Main Street and frontage beautification.
- Abutter buffering and planting.

- Security for back area
- Pathway or solar lighting
- Development of a shade area.
- Buffering around the whole site.
- Removal of invasive plants and poison ivy.
- Entrance to the library to be more welcoming.
- Information signage around the property – educational factors helpful.
- Snowplow concerns

Items of discussion were:

- Improvements and maintenance to the parking lot
- Curb appeal
- Phased implementation
- Trees may need replacement – some appear to be struggling
- Drainage
- Checking for invasive plants
- Creating space for Library program

Dave Ford spoke of the ash tree damage due to ash borers. He also added information about the wetlands, area of storm water – filtered, etc., and anticipated Main Street redo.

John Sandeen mentioned the clay soil issue.

Consideration of a flower garden to include a donation of \$10,000 to include a light maintenance contract was spoken of. The necessity for irrigation to accommodate this feature in the front the library was mentioned.

Susan Poirier brought up the stonewalls and cow path as a historic feature.

Cindy Scott spoke of the outdoor story areas, granite benches, wooden benches and the flagpole donated by the American Legion.

Joyce Davis had questions about the use of granite available from the town for a naturalized space for use of the children's area.

The pathway would require ADA compliance. Trees that are growing in the pathway would need to be removed.

### **Design Opportunities, Constraints and Concerns**

David Ford will work with the design architects to show design capabilities on the site.

## **Maintenance Expectations**

This subject was covered during the goals and expectations subject earlier. Low maintenance very important.

## **Anticipate Construction Budget**

Expectations are from \$200,000 to \$225,000 and should not exceed \$250,000. There will be an opportunity for phasing. Department of Public Works will be able to do some of the work. Monies will be raised by the Library Foundation, Friends of the Library, and some will be available from the Trustees. This will all help to the lower taxpayer expense.

## **Schedule**

The project schedule is:

- August 20 – Kickoff Meeting
- September 8 – Stakeholder meeting
- September 21 – Design Charrette
- September 30 – Community Meeting
- November 12 – Stakeholder Meeting
- November 17 – Community Meeting (virtual)
- December 17 – Final Deliverables & Design

The schedule shows 2 community meetings, the RFP has three. The third meeting may not be necessary if the September 21 design charette is successful as this is designed for community input.

## **Meeting Structure & Format**

We expect the majority of the meetings will be in person with virtual possibility later in the project pending the impact of future Covid issues.

## **Site Walk to Review Items Discussed**

David Ford and Cindy Scott led the site walk which started at 10:10.

Items reviewed were:

- Showing were the snow removal goes
- Pointed out the cow path.
- Tree warden will be called to look at trees (and asked to attend the charette)
- Conservation Commission will also be contacted
- Walked through the wetland area looking at desirable story time location.
- Potential development for bike/walking path
- Connection to the entrance of the town garden
- Security issues will need to be addressed
- Stormwater runoff issues
- Area for the perennial garden
- Sign will be placed on the front of the building
- Possibility to route the walkway through the parking lot and eliminate up to 4 parking spaces

A revised schedule and agenda will be forward to members of the committee. The next meeting will be the stockholders meeting on September 8.

The meeting was adjourned with a return to the Bradley Room at 11:10 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Nancy Bell

Minutes are unapproved until voted on by the Landscaping Committee