

TOWN OF RYE – BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Meeting with the Rye Library Trustees
Wednesday, August 21, 2019
5:00 p.m. – Rye Public Library

Present: Chair Phil Winslow, Vice-Chair Keriann Roman and Selectman Bill Epperson

Others Present: Acting Town Administrator, Becky Bergeron, Rye Library Trustees and Library Director Andy Richmond. Members of the Library Trustees include: Chair Karen Oliver, Vice-Chair Karen Allen, Secretary Brian Klinger, Victor Azzi and Jeff Ross

The meeting was opened at 5:00 p.m.

The selectmen met with members of the Rye Library Trustees to hear about the long term plans for the library, with consideration of how those plans can be incorporated into the long range plans for the Town as a whole.

Andy Richmond, Library Director, spoke about the strategic five year plan (2018-2023) that led to a feasibility study to consider potential expansion. The plan was isolated into six areas of effort;

- Overall service standards
- Community – focusing on cooperatives and places the library can affect its role in leadership in Rye.
- Technology
- Communication
- Facility standards – identifying needs and architectural planning to find solutions for those needs.
- Funding capacity

Janet Davis, Clarkson Davis, and resident of Rye, spoke to the group about the study she has completed for the Trustees regarding the needs of the library and the funding capacity for an expansion. The research showed that private philanthropy of \$25,000 plus, is a group who do not “love” the library enough to write a check today; however, those thoughts can be changed through education and experiences with what the library has to offer. The research also showed that people did not support a three million dollar project because they do not understand the whole plan for the town. There are two recommendations to consider based on the findings of the study.

Scenario #1:

- Total project of 1.5 million
 - \$500,00 warrant article
 - 1 million from private philanthropy
- Plan focuses on the library’s programs

- Invests in select strategic requirements
- Benefits – simple, can be done relatively quickly & trustees remain in control of plan
- Challenges – few leadership donors, takes longer to cultivate the larger donors, no to outside meeting space

Scenario #2:

- Comprehensive campaign
- Investment in 100% of the objectives – 3 million for RPL
- Leverages infrastructure costs across all partners in terms of design, campaigning & marketing. All organizations could use one particular offering.
- Could involve multiple generations across the town for a campaign for the whole town.
- Could culminate in the 400th anniversary
- Benefits – Private philanthropists have many options (Town Hall, Rye Rec, Library) People are willing to give more if they understand the whole package.
- Challenges – humble leaders, a need for working together
- Warrant article for all organizations – cost broken up between foundations, corporations, individuals & warrant article
- Political agility important
- May take a little longer – will have to be phased

Each Selectman spoke in support of scenario #2. It was agreed by all that there needs to be a plan that involves all stakeholders.

Mrs. Davis submitted a copy of recommended next steps for the group to review for the next meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 6:05 p.m.

NON-PUBLIC SESSION (1) RSA 91-A:2, I (b) Collective Bargaining

At 6:09 p.m., Phil Winslow made a motion to go into Non-Public Session per RSA 91-A:2, I (b) Collective Bargaining. Seconded by Bill Epperson. Roll Call: Winslow – Yes, Roman – Yes Epperson – Yes.

At 6:12 p.m., Keriann Roman made a motion to come out of Non-Public Session. Seconded by Phil Winslow. Roll Call: Winslow – Yes, Roman – Yes Epperson – Yes

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Keriann Roman to adjourn at 6:12 p.m. Seconded by Bill Epperson. All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted, Dyana F. Ledger