



*Library Facility Task Force*

February 20, 2015

8:30 a.m.

Winter Park Public Library Community Room

Members present: Gary Barker, Daniel Butts, Bruce Douglas, Randy Knight, Nancy Miles, Joel Roberts, Shawn Shaffer, and Jan Walker.

The meeting was called to order at 8:35 a.m.

Larry Adams from ACi, introduced and welcomed Clyde Scoles, from Toledo Lucas County Public Library in Ohio, who is consulting. Scoles talked about how all over the country libraries today are growing, transforming and changing as an organization that is mirroring the public's insatiable desire for information and education. He quoted Carnegie, saying that Libraries are "Universities for the people." Winter Park Library is re-imagining ourselves for the future, and we are performing a balancing act with one foot in traditional materials and services and one foot in technology. The Library is seen today as the "third place" where people go when they are not at home or working.

Scoles gave a presentation of several communities that have just built new libraries. He focused on libraries in Petersburg, Virginia; Vancouver, British Columbia and Boca Raton, Florida. The new direction in libraries is collaborative spaces, with the opportunity to vary the furniture and move the shelves as needs change. One of the libraries had a rooftop plaza, where concerts and weddings were held. Also there were large atriums that offer community gathering space. Mostly the floors were raised floors that cover the building's electrical and plumbing systems. It was shown how park-like settings were used to bring the outside in via floor-to-ceiling and full-height windows. The walls were predominately gallery walls and book shelves are mostly on wheels that can be rearranged. Books are displayed face-out, more of a bookstore style. The new library in Boca Raton has a book sorting system for patron returns. All of the libraries offer Wi-Fi and quiet areas as well as private meeting room spaces. Special homework centers offer computers. One of the libraries offered a partnership with the local schools, both private and public, to aid and tutor students. One of the libraries shown had a theatre with amphitheater seating that utilized areas under the stairs for storage.

Trends in libraries include using technology to track usage by genre, both for purchasing and weeding purposes. Nationally there is a tremendous affection for the library and there has been a huge upswing in building new libraries in this country.

Mr. Scoles is working with the Task Force and ACi to review the three potential sites to see that the library that is being planned will meet the needs of the collection, technology and services. He answered questions from Task Force members. The group will next be concentrating on refining the functionality and the adjacencies to create the visualization of the Winter Park Public Library.

The meeting adjourned at 10:20 a.m.