

Library Facility Task Force

September 24, 2014

9 a.m.

Melrose Center Second Floor of Orange County Library System's Central Branch
101 E. Central Blvd. Orlando, FL 32801

Members Present: Jeffry Jontz, Jan Walker, Sam Stark, Chip Weston, Gary Barker, Bruce Douglas, Nancy Miles, Joel Roberts, Shawn Shaffer, Randy Knight. Larry Adams and Julie von Weller from ACi also attended.

The meeting was called to order at 9:10 a.m. by Task Force Chair Sam Stark. **The minutes of the September 10, 2014 meeting were approved.**

The report on the community forum, prepared by Marilyn Crotty, was distributed and discussed. The consensus was that the forum was produced good information and there were a lot of positive comments given by the attendees. It was well run and the take-away was that the community believes a new Library will be a huge asset for the City of Winter Park and the future of the residents.

A motion was made, and seconded that the Task Force believes that the City of Winter Park needs a new Library. This motion passed unanimously.

The critical next steps were discussed, including a timeline for the Task Force meetings and the report to the City Commission.

Step two is location. Locations for the new Library were discussed. The sites that ACi have evaluated were discussed, including the pros and cons of each site. The committee consensus is that as sites are evaluated a few will be eliminated as not meeting the necessary criteria.

A motion was made and seconded to eliminate the Progress Point site as a potential location for a new library. The motion passed unanimously.

Step three is working through the details of financing. Randy Knight explained bond issues. The current bond that is on the golf course will expire in 2015. The Task Force feels that the voters will be more likely to approve a new bond issue that will seamlessly replace the golf course bond that citizens are presently paying in their taxes. A specific location need not be named in the bond request, however a specific amount of bonding must be listed.

Shawn Shaffer reported that the 2015 Leadership Winter Park class has selected the Library as the subject of one of its class projects. Members of the class will hold focus groups and obtain information from the business sector, residents and other groups regarding usage as well as programs of interest.

Library Facility Task Force members and guests toured the Melrose Center. An OCPL staff gave the tour and invited questions from our Task Force. The Task Force was impressed with their technology and the opportunities available in their meeting room spaces and their audio and video studio rooms. The simulator room was of particular interest and made new use of visual technology. The natural lighting, windows, carpeting and tech-friendly furniture were all noted and admired.

The next Task Force Meeting will be October 1, 2014 at 8 a.m.

The meeting adjourned at 10:45 am