

Brooks Memorial Library Building and Grounds Committee Minutes

Wednesday, May 28th

- Present: Nikki Holland Berenguel (Chair), Karen Tyler, Starr Latronica (Brooks Director), Ann Varilly (Pres, Brooks Bd of Trustees), Matt Wojcik, Monroe Whittaker, Robin Sweetapple, Lindsay Bellville, Gavin Watson, Christine deVallet
 - **Call to Order 4:34 p.m.**
 - **Approval of March 21 minutes**--approved
 - **Agenda (Changes or Additions)—**
Addition: locks for upstairs bathroom (new business)
 - **Public comment—none**
 - **Continuing business**
 - **ARPA grant status**
Proposals in response to RFQs due tomorrow (5/29); 10 outstanding; Pete Lynch (DPW) will help Starr look at them, also Sue Fillion and Gavin; meeting 5/29
 - **Exterior project update and decisions**—Monroe shared drawings
Discussion included space in front, side, back of library; moving parking spaces; issues of accessibility (ADA compliance); planters, bike racks, book drop, benches (style, color, number), light fixtures, original post relocation, vendor space, internet cafe

New idea: Stone Trust (Janice Malin introduced this idea several months ago) interested in project; invite them to make suggestions for pocket park after initial construction takes place; now will leave it as a grass slope
Discussion Q: does Cmte and Board want to go this route?; (high profiles opportunity; blends with rest of project)—Matt: **commemorative giving?**
- Note:** Public Works request: make it easy to shovel, no lip
- Fencing and lighting and Furniture:**
Discussion: included locations, railing, ADA compliance, color, style
Committee made **decisions** based on Monroe's recommendations on style, color, and consistency for benches, railings, tables, light fixtures; to be consistent with other areas in Brattleboro such as Pliny Park, the Rec Center
- Still to be decided:** signage locations; murals, use of local artists, triptychs, vendor cart
- Lighting:** Light poles: square with plain base; at least 12 feet high; probably high enough to prevent vandalism;
Another option: **round at top** (cmte preference)

Furniture

Benches in front; (similar to Gibson Aiken Center); painted black
Backless? Cmte prefers the ones with back
Granite pavers—can put in planters

Signage? (need to make decision in future about what it will say and look like; mosaic? Murals? local artists? Triptychs? Nb: pattern the wall so that this is possible. Monroe will sketch.

Vender cart area: Gavin: electricity; size large enough for carts?

Book drop: specs Starr to Monroe; will there be a weather cover?

Back: existing hand rail does not meet ADA height requirements: need to change; as enter rear entrance on left: containment rail; no need to heighten; keep as is. Widen existing ramp so not as narrow as now—one and a half foot;

side terrace area; 3 circles; protective rail same as in front; for one of the circles

3 season seating; may not need to shovel in winter?

Benches (curved): 1 with back; 2 backless; moved away from protective railing to allow people to move/look in either direction

Picnic table; handicapped accessible; space for wheelchair

Internet: wifi; outlets on columns, in walls

2 benches under building overhang; benches: possible donations (commemorative opportunities)

There will be a number of gathering areas especially for children's groups

Challenge to be considered in this area: can people look through windows to staff area? Option of re-design. Can close blinds; diffusion curtains?

Decision today: contractor to put in a couple now; leave space for commemorative benches; 2 benches now

Discussion:

Benches:

Gavin: consider milling the **spruce tree**, repurpose for benches, tables

Covered terrace (rear)

Air conditioner compressors are noisy—sound installation?

Backless benches: one flat; one curved; #144. Preferred curved

Picnic table: wheel chair accessible. Metal is more durable; color: grey? dark green?

Decision: metal; can decide color later

Lights: tall, rectangular; match the building; bronze

OR cheaper option which is consistent with library architecture

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Discussion:

Curved, sloped walkway: curved lights

Gooseneck between 2 benches? No

Step lighting for going down into area by the staff room: yes

Wash lighting

Children's furniture

Discussion of size (round or square), color, number of tables

Lindsay: suggests 2 tables not 3—could accommodate needs and would not intrude on space for adults; 1 square; 1 round; 2 semi circular benches; 1 square (3 seater model) and 1 round (**decision**)

Bench with back (3 seats)

Picnic table metal or plastic; space for wheelchair;

Round table and bench for adults? Counter for laptops? Issue of privacy?

Tables: singles, doubles, triples? Also wheelchair accessible

Counter: singles with space between (a la airport)

one shareable and individual places; colors are good choices.

OTHER:

Lindsay: office will be completed in the Fall

Lindsay and Starr met with Butch (\$3600 for locks). Robin suggests we investigate Greenfield Lock

Trash receptacles: Keystone Ridge

Front of building: pair of receptacles: trash and recyclables; also by door

Adjourn: 7:00 pm

Next meeting (tentative): June 25, 4:30?