CADOTT SPECIAL VILLAGE BOARD MINUTES

INFORMATIONAL MEETING WITH THE LIBRARY BOARD

LIBRARY BUILDING PLANS AND FUNDRAISER

APRIL 19, 2023

A Special meeting of the Cadott Village Board was called to order by President Randy Kuehni. Trustees present were: Bart Chapek, Les Liptak, Todd Seeley, and Eric Weiland. Absent: Terry Licht and Nicole Whipp Sime. Library Board members: Samma Johnson (Library Director), Katherine (Cookie) Kaste (Library President), and Diana Mackie (Vice President). Library Board Building Committee Trustees: John Thompson (Inspiring and Facilitating Library Success - I.F.L.S. Library Association), Cody Panozzo, Patti Harm, and Janet Butterbrodt. Public Present: Cory Scheidler (Cedar Corp.), Lynn McIntyre (Cedar Corp.), Julia Wolf (Reporter), Jeremy Kenealy (DPW), Charlotte Seibel, Patsy Lenard, Amy Wellner, Carolyn Wanish, Adele Danielson, Randy Rykal, Anson Albarado, Jodie Kuehni, Keith Frank, Kevin Litten, Lora Schwartz, Jean Rygiel, and Leslie LaRose. The next regular Board meeting will be May 1, 2023 at 6:30 p.m.

Cookie Kaste (Library President) thanked the Village Board and public for coming. The Building Committee identified potential donors and campaign leadership, identified potential grant and funding opportunities, created a naming rights policy and target amounts for individual spaces within the library, created a project FAQ, and developed campaign materials for donors and the general public. The final, furnished 8,950 square ft. building has an estimated cost of $2.5-3 million. The amount spent so far is $42,661. The first $100,000 donation was pledged. The plan for funding will start with a quiet phase of seeking significant individual & business donors and grants. Then it will go to the public phase with local efforts, events, mailings, etc. There is a $1,000,000 Federal Block Grant that the Village could apply for with the Village proving a match of $500,000 liquidation towards the project. There is also existing funding sources available including Board savings, current building fund, and Miller Endowment Fund. The Library Board would like the groundbreaking completion in 2025-2027. Kaste stated the Library Board would like the Village Board’s consent to begin fund raising, the endorsement of the site, and the general building concept.

Chapek stated 2025 for ground breaking is really soon. Don’t know where the money will come from as the Village couldn’t get a referendum. The biggest concern is the streets. Kuehni asked if applying for a grant application for the Library would interfere with the street projects that need to be done as the sewer is collapsing on Maple Street. Lynn McIntyre (Cedar Corp.) stated there are different types of grants for streets. Kuehni asked if the green space would be fenced in as there will be kids by the Highway. Cory Scheidler (Cedar Corp.) stated it could be added. Kuehni asked who is responsible for the up keep cost. Scheidler stated the Boards will have to discuss maintenance and operations cost. John Thompson stated the building is designed more efficient.

Liptak asked the current square footage compared to the new building. Scheidler stated it would 4,000 square feet more. Liptak asked if there were three sets of bathrooms. Scheidler stated there are four: mens, womens, unisex, and staff. Liptak stated we do need a new library. There is a funding issue. It will be double the cost of operations no matter how cost effective it is. Liptak likes the two phase funding. Could possibly create a Cadott Community Library Go Fund Me page.

Kuehni asked what the head count per day is on customers going into the library. Samma Johnson (Library Director) stated a busy day around 30-50 people and a slow day around 12-15 people. Kuehni asked how it will affect the Public School Library. Johnson stated there are two different collections. The School’s collection is specifically for students and the Public Library’s collection is for everyone.

Public Comment: Amy Wellner stated she liked the proposal and goals but does not like the location. Drop off and pick up times at the school is busy with buses and people lining up along with the traffic on the street. Scheidler stated they haven’t talked to Department of Transportation. Options could be a safe crossing, lowering speeds, and flashing lights. Randy Rykal inquired about the size of the meeting room. Kaste replied it would be used to bring in authors, a program area, or meetings like this. Jean Rygiel stated the location is a congested area with no safe route to cross Highway 27. There are lots of changes downtown since you picked the location. Downtown should be a thought. Carolyn Wanish asked when the last time a traffic study was done. The traffic is busy with Highway 27, picking up, and dropping off kids at the school. Nabor Days the parking lot is full of cars. This is a safety issue that needs to be looked at and complete a traffic study. Wanish stated we need to protect the Village from getting sued. Albarado stated the Department of Transportation will not complete a safety study without plans. If it is a for sure thing then a safety study will be done. Albarado stated the Alice and George Miller Trust is to provide resources only.

A motion was made by Chapek and seconded by Weiland to adjourn. MC.

April Bruhn, Clerk