

**Vineyard Haven Library Building Design and Construction Committee
Meeting 10 AM Wednesday December 1st, 2021**

Present: Jim Norton, Paul Munafo, Ben Robinson, Arch Smith, Amy Ryan

Absent: Andrew Flake, Sandy Pratt

Member of the public Triva Emery also in attendance.

Meeting came to order on Zoom at 10:15 AM.

Minutes for meetings on July 19th 2019, September 17th, 2019, October 3rd, 2019, and February 14th 2020 were approved (with ASmith abstaining).

ARyan and ASmith provided an update on fundraising efforts by the VHPL Building Fund Inc. VHPLBFI continued to meet monthly during COVID-19. The project received some good press coverage. Yard signs distributed throughout Tisbury beginning in Summer 2021 had good response. The capital campaign had reached approximately 1 million dollars toward 2 million dollar goal, with average gift of \$2,500.

ARyan reported on library operations and activity during COVID-19. Attendance for virtual Adult Programs was greater than in-person events the prior year, 5,176 in FY2021 vs 3,131 in FY2019. Live attendance for online Youth Programs was only 75 vs 4,969, however library distributed almost 5,000 "Take & Make" activity bags, and there were 1,659 views of recorded programs produced by library staff. In total there were approximately 13,000 virtual program participants since the pandemic began. The library had returned to near-normal hours with somewhat limited seating capacity and meeting rooms closed, with air purifiers, open windows, and masks required. Indoor, in-person storytime programs had resumed upstairs when the library is closed to other uses.

ARyan reported that in September 2020 Doug Jack from Maryann Thompson Architects (MTA) made a site visit with subcontracted systems engineer Larry Roy, to review design in regards to COVID-19, including whether the design had a sufficient number of operable windows and adequate ventilation, and also to look at current ventilation in the existing building. Following the site visit MTA reported findings and suggested next step would be a proposal for short term and long term Air Quality improvements. To date, no improvements have been made, but funds were appropriated at town meeting in June 2021 to move forward with the proposal, to result in immediate improvements and plan for full replacement of HVAC with better design to adequately service the lower level of the building.

ARyan reported on talks with the Town's Emergency Manager Christina Colarusso on how the library could serve as a resource during heat waves and other emergencies, and the possibility of a generator, battery bank, and solar power planned as part of addition and renovation. The Library Board of Trustees has discussed requesting town funding for Solar on the existing building when roof is replaced. BRobinson suggested also speaking to Melinda Loberg from the Town's newly formed Climate Committee, that would be looking at facility needs. Grant funding may be a possibility.

Committee discussed the project cost estimate from 2020 and construction cost changes during COVID. Discussion about whether the committee should look at design changes, or update cost estimate. Consensus was that this was not necessary at this time, and to reassess sometime before the summer. ASmith noted that he has encountered some pushback from potential donors on why is one room so expensive.

PMunafo made a motion to adjourn, seconded by ASmith.

Meeting adjourned 11:30am.