

Special Meeting Minutes June 15, 2022
Edward U. Demmer Memorial Library
Library Board of Trustees Meeting

Trustee Attendance: Ann Asbeck, Dianna Blicharz (virtual, in person 4:40 PM before motions and votes), Kathleen Olkowski, Patty Wallesverd

Absent: Dan McKissack, Jeff Boehm, Steve Garbowicz

Other Attendees: Erica Brewster (director), Ryan Miller (Plan Commission), Karl Koenig (Plan Commission), Norris Ross (Plan Commission), Bob Werner (Three Lakes Public Library Foundation)

Ann Asbeck called the meeting to order at 4:15 p.m.

Agenda:

Motion by Patty, seconded by Kathleen, to approve the agenda in any order. All ayes, motion carried.

Discussion/action – solar project design and implementation:

Brief update on background of project including history and project objectives, project installation options, production differences, cost, Public Service Commission grant deadlines, etc.

Update on revision of design by Northwind Solar based on the proposed layout provided by Veteran's Memorial Committee on 6/2: size would be reduced from 44-48 modules to 15 bi-facial, production approximately 7,500 kW/year, down from 17,000 – 20,000 kW/year, roughly 10% energy bill offset, down from 35-42% offset. Cost of 7,500 kW/year project would be the same (or, if the decorative SolarSkin was applied, more than) the first quoted 20,000 kW/year ground mount design, which was already double the cost of a traditional roof mount. Ground mount would also be more challenging to complete yet this year. Additionally, very likely to lose grant funding as this would not meet the production/project expectations of the grantors.

Alternatives at this point would be to return to the roof mount (traditional attachments or non-penetrating rack mount) or to have further discussions with the Plan Commission and Veteran Memorial Sub-Committee regarding reallocating/negotiating space around draft layout, or not do the solar project according to/ based on the current descriptions of options and timeline. Further discussion about lack of clarity in process in approving either solar project or memorial design, further confounded by the existence of the Green Space Committee which has not been formally disbanded and still has a proposed design that does not include either solar or the large Veterans Memorial space proposed. These factors would likely require more time than the summer/fall construction deadline allows.

Motion by Kathleen, seconded by Patty, to not do the solar project and revisit it at a later date. All ayes, motion carried. Three ayes, one nay, motion carried.

Motion by Dianna, seconded by Ann, to approach the foundation in regards to funding the battery backup system. All ayes, motion carried.

Brief update – director search and staffing:

Brief update regarding the library director search committee.

Comments from citizens:

Recognition and appreciation of attendance by Plan Commission members seeking to gather information.

Question regarding the landscaping timeline for the south side of the building. Previously a solar installation could have conflicted with this project. Determination is now landscaping can move forward on the timeline most convenient to the landscaper.

Question about pursuing information on a natural gas generator. Library board has not sought information on alternative electricity backup systems.

Next Meeting: Regular meeting June 21, 2022, 4:30 pm in the lower level of the library and/or via video/teleconference.

There being no further business, Patty moved to adjourn, seconded by Kathleen. All ayes, motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 5:03 PM.

Respectfully submitted: Erica Brewster, Director