

Meeting of the Jones Library, Inc. Buildings and Facilities Committee
November 15, 2022, 4:15 p.m. meeting conducted via Zoom webinar

Members Present: Alex Lefebvre, Farah Ameen, and George Hicks-Richards
Also Present: members of the public (3 attendees)

I. Meeting called to order at 4:15 p.m.

II. Minutes

MOTION:

To approve the minutes of October 4, 2022. Approved 3-0-0.

III. Public Comment – Bob Pam commented that he has made some recommendations to the JLBC and believes some of those recommendations might be applicable to this meeting. He has requested a tour of the building so that he might have a better idea of how the environmental system for Special Collections works. He is wondering if Special Collections can be treated like a home system and use a heat pump. Also wondering if Woodbury Room should be heated separately. Also wondering if the library could approach the engineering and architecture departments at UMass to see if they would do projects around replacement of the atrium (similar to the sophomore projects done by the landscape department).

IV. Delivery Van Update

Ford is struggling with supply chain issues and special orders are dragging along. No update. While waiting for the new van, we continue to patch up the current van as best as possible. Will need an inspection sticker in February. If new van does not come in by February will have to cost and what might be required to pass inspection.

V. North Amherst Library Building Project Update

Have not received an update from Guilford. Believe things are on schedule.

VI. Monthly Building and Grounds Report

The tent is officially down. Left the frame up again because it might go back up in the spring. If we want to do that would need to get another extension on the building permit from town. Using a new snowplow company based in Amherst. No change to the leak in the staff room.

VII. Backup Building Project Planning

George and Sharon gave a tour to Rob Mora, Jeremiah Laplante, Stephanie Ciccarello and Sean Mangano. The tour focused on the mechanicals of building and atrium. Gave an overview and what has been replaced. It was a very productive tour since none of them had been in the building to see mechanicals, how building was designed in the 90's to be heat and cooled.

George and Sharon met with them last week to go over what they saw on the tour. There is no specific plan put in place yet. At brainstorming phase of what next steps might be if project not to proceed.

They need to look into construction engineers to look at existing building and best steps forward. Who will pay for costs and getting on the calendar. Believe we will be getting a lot of support from the town. Everyone feels the HVAC is the number one priority. Determining what parts can be done separately. Impressed how building has been held together given what we have been dealing with in terms of design issues, age of system, etc.

Expect to hear something in the next few weeks.

Will tentatively schedule our next B&F meeting for December 20th at 9 am and see what works best for the group.

Commented that the Town has released a Sustainability Statement for Procurement. Assume this does not apply to our building but glad we are working with the town to try to keep the plan B repair work in line with town goals around sustainability. Based on an initial conversation with Stephanie it seems the town funds for sustainability are earmarked for other projects and may not be available for use in a repair project at the library. Appreciate her expertise and want to continue to keep her at the table to explore all possible avenues for funding and green initiatives.

VIII. Topics Not Anticipated By the Chair

IX. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 4:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Alex Lefebvre