

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Mayor Boelk with the following roll call:

Members Present: Ald. Gene Frings, Pat Antony, Sheila Steger, Sue Smith, Andrew Shoemaker, Lisa Neumann, Alixe Bielot (6:04)

Members Absent:

Others Present: Mayor Boelk, Sara Decker

Item #2 Pledge of Allegiance.

Item #3 Citizens Comments.

None.

Item #4 Discuss Scope of the Library Exploratory Advisory Committee.

Committee members introduced themselves. The Mayor explained that the committee was developed to come up with a new site downtown for a library. He asked that they use their imagination whether it would be renovating an existing building, finding a new location or tearing an old building down to start new. The Mayor is leaving it up to the committee and the Council agrees. The committee developed a list of reasons for a new library.

- not ADA compliant
- not enough meeting spaces
- library is now a community gathering place
- cannot increase electricity-can't add more computers
- roof leaks
- basement horrible-can't store anything in the basement
- foundation problems
- water issues
- no office space
- no computers in children's space
- no data ports
- hard for elderly people to get in/out
- no place to do children's programming without being disruptive to rest of library
- No study rooms for groups of students
- Library built in 1968.
- Running out of room for materials/books.
- Work space is horrible.
- No room to put other staff
- Heat doesn't work properly.

The Mayor discussed possible WEDC grants if the building has retail space. It is the consensus that the library should remain downtown. They discussed example libraries and the history of the current library. There was discussion of the 2008 feasibility study. We'll make sure that committee members get a copy to review. There was discussion of fundraising for the project rather than a referendum. The idea of a space for a theater was discussed. They talked about the possibility of Kwik Trip purchasing the current library. Possible locations at the old Vorlob's building, the redbrick building were briefly discussed along with the acreage of space needed. The Mayor noted he'd like to see something state-of-the art as things have evolved and technology is ever changing. The layout of the library with incorporating a theater and meeting rooms was discussed.

Item #5 Elect a chairperson.

Sue nominates Pat. Pat said that she has concerns about her availability because of other commitments. It was questioned how long this committee will be in place. The Mayor suggested 6 months to a year until they have the need information, but it is up to the committee. Alixe suggested maybe there be co-chairs. Motion by Pat Antony, second by Andy Shoemaker to nominate Sue Smith.

Motion by Ald. Frings, second by Andy Shoemaker to close the nominations.
Motions carry unanimously.

Item #6 Elect a secretary.

Motion by Pat Antony, second by Andy Shoemaker to nominate Lisa Neumann.

Alixé noted that she can help out and they could rotate. Motion amended to have a rotating secretary of Lisa and Alixé. Motion carried unanimously.

Item #7 Set next meeting date .

There was discussion on next meeting date. March 12, 2018 at 6pm. There is a City Council meeting at 7pm, so they will meet at the Library.

Items for the next agenda: continue to discuss scope of the library, review past feasibility survey, set timelines, suggest libraries to tour, discuss fundraising, discuss reasons for a new library to relay to the public, discuss status of the redbrick building.

Item #8 Adjournment.

Motion by Sue Smith, second by Alixé Bielot to adjourn the meeting at 6:40 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Sara Decker, City Clerk