

## **Library Building Committee Meeting – January 26, 2015 - DRAFT**

*Present:* John Freidin (chair), Susan Shashok, Maria Graham, Dennis O'Brien, Kathleen Ramsay, Kevin Unrath, and Christina Johnston.

Also present, Barbara Doyle-Wilch, library strategic planning consultant.

Meeting called to order at 4:03.

4:05 - *Report from Barbara Doyle-Wilch and Kevin Unrath:* Ms. Doyle-Wilch and Mr. Unrath presented on where Library trustees are at regarding updating Ilsley's strategic plan. The process is in full swing, with more than half of the activities completed including: analysis of the community; readings on 21<sup>st</sup> century library services; Board and staff brainstorming and self-study exercises; snap surveys; and the completed building committee survey. Ms. Doyle-Wilch cautioned against being reactive in planning rather than proactive in planning based on the information gathered. Future activities will include deciding on "Centers of Excellence" on which the library will focus; interview key people in the community and holding focus groups; and finally writing up the mission/vision and "Centers of Excellence" into a plan. This plan could then be used by the Building Committee and the board to look further at space needs and by an architect to investigate building needs.

Mr. Freidin briefly outlined his investigation into hiring a fundraising consultant to look into the feasibility of raising money for a library building project. \$30,000-\$35,000 would be a rough estimate of cost for such a study, and people to interview would need to be identified in part by the committee and board. The library hopes to fund this study all or in a large part with grants and private funds.

5:00 - *Minutes of the November 17, 2014 meeting:* Approved unanimously as submitted.

5:05 – *Discussion of readings sent to the committee* – Mr. O'Brien pointed out that the readings were visionary and a little stratospheric, and that monumental buildings (like Ilsley) were sometimes challenging for people to walk into when intimidated.

Ms. Graham thought that the Topeka/Shawnee mission and goals document provided the right tone for communicating our plan moving forward.

5:15 – *Timeline* – Mr. Freidin reviewed the timeline of the committee, updating it to include task accomplished (including hiring a consultant), those to be done, and those postponed. Lively discussion of a presentation at Town Meeting day ensued, with the committee deciding that paragraphs in the town report would highlight the work done so far and a few sentences by Board President Graham pointing out that the building committee's work is focused on outreach and still in the works.

5:30 – *Next meeting scheduled* – for March 23<sup>rd</sup> at 4:30pm.

5:35 – Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kevin Unrath