

Library Building Sub Committee Minutes Oct 14, 2021

Present Bldg Committee: Jack Chandler, Matt Scannell, Matt Emsley

Other Attendees: Al Carlin (Trustee), Alex (Library Asst. Dir), Betsy Perry (Library Dir)

4 pm meeting called to order – Matt S.

Motion to approve meeting minutes from 8/23 mtg. Approved - 2 yes, 1-abstain

Discussion:

1) Sprinkler:

- Matt S. introduced his understanding of a potential issue with the existing sprinkler placement above the lift. Garaventa representative suggested it should be addressed if any modifications were made to the lift.
- Alex noted that there was a recent inspection and the system passed with no issues.
- Jack C agreed to reach out to the sprinkler company (Cogswell) and check options.
- A decision will be made on any action taken once a proposal is made for lift options.

2) Lift options:

- Matt S laid out 3 potential options for the handicap access lift:
 - a) Address the lift changes when the Trustees propose an expansion of the Library. Matt E asked when the Trustees intended to take forward a proposal to the town. Al Carlin stated that any expansion would be part of their 10-20 yr capital plan. The committee agreed that the lift would need to be addressed before that timeframe.
 - b) Replace lift with a new system in the same location and footprint. Matt E asked what the lead time was to start work to ensure the Library could request the appropriate funds at town meeting.
 - c) Replace lift with a new system and modify location to improve access. This option is for a 'straight-thru' lift for easier entrance/exit and requires modifications to the entrance vestibule area.

Current Lift Experience - Matt S noted that he had borrowed a wheelchair to test out the lift use and access himself. He found it was an uncomfortable experience.

Lift usage - Alex noted that the lift was used daily (by the book delivery in the morning) and occasionally for strollers and handicap access patrons. It functions, but is very slow and potentially frightening for children given the length of time and noise.

Straight-thru Lift – Matt E asked if option C would increase the weight load or footprint (size) of the current lift? Matt S said his current understanding was the footprint was similar and would not expand the size. It was noted that the straight-thru lift may improve the in/out but still required an “S-turn” to exit and enter the library.

Cost – Quote received from Garaventa for \$34k (parts/install only). Matt E asked if there was a quote on the cost to modify the entrance to accommodate the 'straight-thru' lift option. A decision/proposal on option B or C should not be made until there was a better understanding of the costs associated with the building modification. Matt S noted that there was still some funds remaining on the original assessment and LLB could be engaged to create a design and estimate.

After further discussion on the options, a proposal was made and voted on as follows:

“The committee believes a straight-through lift configuration would improve ADA access to the building and recommends the Trustees explore the cost to modify with LLB”. VOTE: 3 yes.

Meeting adjourned at 5:12pm.

SEPARATE FOLLOW-UP BY JACK CHANDLER RE: SPRINKLER

I spoke with the service person from Eagle that I have known for years and with Chief Hurlbut and Lt. Kokernak regarding the sprinkler head over the lift.

The bottom line is that there is no issue with the sprinkler head over the current lift, nor would there be with a new lift in either configuration that we have discussed.

There was a change in the sprinkler law years ago that now prohibits sprinklers in enclosed elevator shafts. That is not what we gave with the lift.