

Building & Grounds Minutes

November 8, 2023

Call to order

Blaum called the meeting to order at 10:02am.

Roll call: Rector - present, Blaum - present, Beadle - excused, Lenstra - excused, Diedrich - present.

Public Comments

None

Approval of October 6, 2023 minutes

Rector moved to approve the October 6, 2023 minutes. Blaum seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Updates on exterior repair project

Blaum inquired now that the railing has been fixed, will it be painted. Diedrich stated that she will contact Joe Beyer, who has painted both the interior and exterior of the library building previously, to have the railings painted in the spring/summer. The committee discussed color and settled on the railings being painted black.

The project is a week behind schedule due to waiting on the buttress stones to arrive. The stones arrived on Tuesday and the crew is currently working on installation. The foreman believes they will be done the following week, after small touch ups are completed.

Rector commented on the completeness of the reports made by Todd Birkel of Hooting Coyote. The committee finds his work to be very helpful in understanding each step of the project. Diedrich informed the committee that he has been great to work with as well as Pete Rynott and the BSM crew.

The committee briefly discussed the storm window that was broken while the crew was pressure washing the south side of the building. Rynott informed Diedrich immediately after it occurred. Diedrich gave Rynott contact information to Dubuque Glass Company, a company the library has worked with previously to replace windows. BSM has ordered a window and will cover all costs of replacement.

Updates on fireplace restoration

Diedrich reached out to Anna Weiss-Pfau at Third Coast Conservation for an update on the fireplace tiles. Weiss-Pfau stated that they have the tiles and are ready for installation, but their schedule has been keeping them from making the trip. She hopes to come out in late November or early December to install the tiles. A second trip may be needed to ensure the tiles and fills cure correctly.

Discussion and possible action on children's egress RFB

At a previous meeting the committee requested that Jim Baranski be contacted to look over the RFB with specific attention to the bid requirements. Baranski suggested removing the "Representative projects" item and decreasing the Insurance Requirement liability policy to \$1,000,000. He suggested both of these as to not alienate any potential local bidders. Baranski reminded Diedrich that the board may always ask for references and information regarding a bidder's previous projects before awarding the bid. The committee appreciated and agreed with both of Baranski's suggestions.

Diedrich will work on updating the RFB and entering in dates for publication of bid, bid closing date, bid opening date, etc. The completed draft will be ready to be in the November board packet.

Rector moved to accept the changes to the RFB and forward onto the Board for approval to execute. Blaum seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Items for next agenda

Blaum would like to see a strategy created for landscaping and grounds upkeep. Diedrich updated the committee that she is working with Garnet Fee, a master gardener, and the U of I Extension Master Gardeners to come up with a design for the landscaping. Diedrich would like to focus on native plants and grasses rather than a polished lawn. The library would like to focus and support the local ecosystems. The committee also discussed that any designed plans ought to be communicated with Mark Moran and the City.

The committee left the Historical Room to do a walk around of the building and view the repairs made. Diedrich introduced the committee members to Pete Rynott. After the walk around the committee returned to the Historical Room.

Blaum adjourned the meeting at 10:50am.

Respectfully submitted,
Jenna Diedrich
Library Director