

LIBRARY BUILDING COMMITTEE
Meeting of February 25, 2015

A meeting of Library Building Committee was held on February 25, 2015 at Southworth Library. Ms. Antunes called the meeting to order at 5:40.

Board Members

Lynne Antunes, Secretary ex officio	Shawn McDonald
Stanley Bielusiak	Suzanne McDonald, Chair
Bruce Brooks	Mike Proulx
David Cressman, ex officio	Troy Tufano
Mary Ellen DeFrias, Vice-Chair	Deborah Wender, ex officio

Mr. and Ms. McDonald were not present

The first order of business was selecting a slate of officers. After some discussion, the nominations were Suzanne McDonald for Chair, Mary Ellen DeFrias for Vice Chair, and Lynne Antunes for Secretary. A motion to approve was made by Mr. Brooks and seconded by Mr. Tufano. A vote was taken and all were in favor, none opposed.

The Committee began a discussion of the Library Building Program draft prepared by consultant Sunny Vandermark. Topics covered were concerns that the meeting room should seat 100 rather than 50, that using a population figure based on 35% of the town's population might be too high, that the building must be sized so that it is affordable, whether 11 public computers are sufficient, and a question about how the town might fund its share of construction costs.

Library construction costs can be estimated to be about \$450 per square foot, and adding another 50 seats to the meeting room could cost about \$282,000. While the new library will be a branch, it needs to be large enough to serve the growing population in north Dartmouth. Funding the town's share of construction costs will require a debt exclusion. The number of public computers could be supplemented by laptops and tablets also being made available to the public. No decisions were made and these issues will be taken up again at the next meeting. Two changes that should be made to the draft are to remove the sentence on page 1 of Section II stating "The North Dartmouth Library is located near the Dartmouth High School and other public schools" and to change "fluorescent lights" in Section III, page 50 to "LED lights."

Site selection was then discussed, with 4 sites being considered. These sites include the town owned land on Cross Road which was originally purchased to use for a new library, land near A.C. Moore and Toys "R" Us, a large parcel behind Home Depot and BJ's, and the Circuit City building. The Committee voted to dismiss the site near A.C. Moore and the Circuit City site from consideration. The Cross Road site is next to Potter School and was previously approved by the state for library construction. The parcel behind Home Depot, ID number 166_143 on

the town's mapping system, abuts some established neighborhoods and could become a walking destination for residents.

In December, several Library Building Committee members visited some newly constructed libraries in Massachusetts, and numerous photographs were taken. Ms. Antunes will select a "cloud" storage site to share these photos and documents relating to the project.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:45.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 19 at 5:30 at Southworth Library

Respectfully submitted,
Lynne Antunes