

Present

SLBC: Mary Anne Antonellis, Stephen Dallmus, Brad Foster, Dale Houle, Penny Jaques, Molly Moss, Elaine Puleo, Jeff Quackenbush

Lauren Stara (MLBC), Neil Joyce (OPM), Matt Oudens (OE), Dominick Wit (OE)

Guests: Les Luchonok, Jill Marland, Miriam DeFant, Mary Lou Conca, Rob Kibler, Weezie Houle

Puleo opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Public Comment None

Review minutes from February 14 meeting

Foster moved to approve the minutes as presented. Dallmus seconded.

Roll call vote: Antonellis-aye, Dallmus-aye, Foster-aye, Houle-abstain, Jaques-aye, Puleo-aye, Quackenbush-aye

Continue Design discussion

Antonellis and Oudens both stated that we are now in very preliminary design discussions and that nothing that is presented or discussed is set in stone.

Oudens also reported that the final draft of the contract has been approved by both OE and Shutesbury Town Council.

For now, the proposed new library location would be 345' from Leverett Road in order to stay out of buffer zone. A mounded septic system will likely be required due to the high water table. The design team would like to keep the building, parking area and septic all outside the 100' buffer – many things are competing for real estate outside buffer zone. Oudens noted that it is easier to control roof runoff from the building than from the parking lot, and the runoff from the parking lot is not as clean.

Several possible schematic designs were presented with several orientations and configurations: rectangular footprints with an E-W orientation; rectangular footprints with N-S orientations; L-shaped footprints with a community room on one end and the rest of the library in the other. Both gable and shed roofs were shown, noting that shed roofs have better solar gain. Pros and cons of the various configurations were discussed.

Antonellis commented that she would like the meeting room to open into an open area/lobby for overflow at events.

Stara reminded the group that a sustainability strategy is needed, Shutesbury is designated a Green Community, and a new, more stringent Energy Stretch Code goes into effect in July 2023, and this project will be subject to that code.

Joyce commented that he has reached out to initiate pathways and incentives for this.

Dallmus asked: Is shed roof better for solar? Is there an optimal roof pitch for maximizing PV ?

Antonellis asked if there is an issue with snow on a roof with a shallow pitch? O-E replied that snow should stay on roof till it melts.

Stara recommended keeping circulation and staff offices together rather than separating them as show in some schematics. She asked about a sawtooth roof? Oudens replied that it is more expensive.

Puleo asked how high would the ceiling be in a long rectangular building with a shed roof? Oudens replied the ceiling could be 15 – 18'. He added that if a shed roof faced away from Leverett Road, the roof is not visible thus the look of the roof surface is less important. Foster asked if an L-shape building more expensive? Oudens: it may be slightly more expensive than a rectangle. The L-shaped configuration moves the building into the buffer but stays out of the 50' buffer.

Dallmus noted that if the building is located far from the road that the N-S oriented building is the least desirable from the perspective of road presence. He also commented that an open floor plan offers more flexibility and allows reconfiguration as needs may change.

Puleo asked "Where do we go from here?" According to our tight timeline, we are 1/3 of way thru the time allotted for a schematic plan.

DeFant was invited to comment. She noted that one flag within BVW 3 (between 3A-114 and 3A-115) is unresolved as it is under the debris pile within the wetland. She expressed concern that this may alter the location of the wetland boundary on the SW corner of the building envelope that is currently being discussed.

Oudens asked about organizing an informal meeting with relevant boards. DeFant suggested a sub quorum meeting with herself and another commissioner.

DeFant stated that "We do permit projects in buffer zones; we would want to see impacts minimized"

Oudens asked "Would the commission consider siting the septic in the buffer zone?" DeFant replied that it would require an alternative analysis.

Oudens asked if clearing in the buffer would be considered with compensation? DeFant could not answer.

Puleo: Oudens is not available on March 14 for the regular bi-weekly meeting, but could meet later that week or following week. She will find an alternate meeting time.

Kibler complemented the architect for proposing several options, then asked how hard is it to fit a library on this site? Oudens replied that without ORAD it is hard to say.

Oudens asked about forming a Design Subcommittee to speed the process. It would meet in person during the day. Stara added that on most projects there is a design subcommittee; you need a small nimble subcommittee.

A Design Subcommittee composed of the following was formed:

Library Building Committee members: Antonellis, Dallmus, and Quackenbush

Others: OE staff, Joyce and Stara

Antonellis will investigate open meeting law rule as this is good for transparency. She added that this committee has been described as having the most democratic website that has been seen and she wants to see it continue in that mode.

Lot O-32 update Antonellis provided an update:

- **Former Radio Tower Site:** At the February 28 Selectboard meeting, Matt Kisane of Fuss and O'Neill presented information about the gasoline release at former Air Force Tower and F&O's ongoing investigation. He described a small, localized historic release of gasoline at the former Department of Defense site near the southern end of the parcel. When the gasoline tank was removed in 1994, 100 tons of contaminated soil was also removed to remediate the site. Testing from Fall 2022 revealed that some gasoline remains in nearby surrounding soil. The location is 1000' from the library site and has no impact on the construction of a library.
- **ANRAD:** The public hearing for the ANRAD is at 8 pm during the Conservation Commission's March 9 meeting. We are also working to determine the location of the missing wetland point in BVW3.

Committee liaison updates

Antonellis – The Friends of the Library are planning this year's Library Giving Day on April 4. Last year \$38,000 was raised and we have big plans for this year. The Friends are starting to plan Spring Spruce Ups which are take place between mid-April and early-May.

Planning for upcoming forum

We will delay the New Library Forum until we are further into the design process. A meeting with the Library Building Committee, the Designers and relevant boards and departments will be planned in the near future.

Foster moved to adjourn. Quackenbush seconded.

Roll call vote: Antonellis-aye, Dallmus-aye, Foster-aye, Houle-aye, Jaques-aye, Puleo-aye, Quackenbush-aye

Adjourned at 8:42pm