

Trustees of the M.N. Spear Memorial Library  
April 4, 2022 7:30pm, on Zoom  
Minutes

- Members present: Michele Regan-Ladd, Tim Logan, Brad Foster, Savannah Ouellette, Melanie DeSilva, Kate Cell
- Mary Anne Antonellis: Library Director

Mary Anne made an announcement that the meeting is being held via Zoom due to the pandemic.

- Discussion of draft of M. N. Spear Library Project Initial List of Questions: These are questions to ask the MBLC about the cost estimate.
  - There are many items in the estimate that we have questions about and things that are on the estimate that we did not ask for and that are not in the building program. Example: basement walls for a building that will not have a basement.
  - It appears that many items were added because they are standard and not specific to our needs and building program.
  - This document will be sent to the MBLC tomorrow with a request for a discussion so we can talk about the possibility of getting a new cost estimate.
  - We would also like to have a conversation with the MBLC about the soft costs because the amount of the ineligible costs seems higher than anticipated. The goal of this project is to make building a new library accessible to small towns. This project is requiring towns pay soft costs up front which is an additional barrier for small towns because it is a higher amount that we have to ask the town to fund up front. Last time, we did not have to pay for FF&E ahead of time.
  - The MBLC knows that we would like a new cost estimate and need more time for that.
  - Trustees voted unanimously to approve this document to send to the MBLC.
- Discussion of statement to be read at the MBLC meeting Thursday on April 7 at 1pm if we are offered the grant.
- We will be exploring additional funding opportunities.
- The Small Library Pilot Project is an experiment, and the MBLC was hoping the process would be easier for small towns. We look forward to providing feedback on the process.
- Thursday's MBLC meeting- We need to stay focused. Michele is the spokesperson for the Trustees and Mary Anne is the Library spokesperson. Some people opposed to the library might speak in opposition to the library. If the MBLC allows public comment, Trustees can speak, but should be brief and stay on point.

Documents discussed:

- M. N. Spear Library Project Initial List of Questions
- MBLC meeting statement

Next meeting: Monday, April 11 at 7:30pm

Respectfully submitted by Melanie DeSilva, Secretary, Library Board of Trustees