

HINSDALE PUBLIC LIBRARY

Ad Hoc Space Plan Committee, Meeting

MINUTES

October 3, 2024

Present: John Bloomfield, President; Chun Ye, Trustee

Also Present: Karen Kleckner Keefe, Executive Director; Bob Bell, BTS Manager; Martha Kennedy, Patron Services Manager; Lizzy Boden, Adult Services Manager, Lisa Winchell, Youth Services Manager

Remote: Magda Sokolowski, Vice President; Samantha Mendiola, HGA; Kate Lohrenz, HGA; Erica Frederiksen, HGA

The meeting was called to order at 1:30 p.m.

HGA reviewed the planning process and proposed timeline.

HGA reviewed the design drivers identified in previous meetings. Committee members confirmed that these were still priorities and that HPL wants to maximize the use of space, with public space being the top priority.

HGA explained that the revised plans did not make any significant changes to the northwest corner, leaving a new entrance on that side an option for the future.

HGA confirmed a \$3-\$4 million budget for improvements. Priorities are a wider central staircase with one return per floor, moving the Community Meeting Room to the main floor, and expanding public space for youth programming and collections that could accommodate middle school students.

The committee told HGA that HPL would like to maintain or expand the number of study rooms.

HGA estimates that a \$3-\$4 million budget can cover the stair project and approximately 15,000 square feet of interior improvements.

Preliminary plans for the main floor call for right-sizing the Quiet Room and adding two study rooms. The Board Room would move to the area where the Teen Lounges is now.

The committee discussed the importance of intuitive shelf groupings when shelving is changed and moved.

When discussing the lower level, the committee had questions about the utility of the proposed picture book shelving. HGA will send more information on design and libraries currently using similar units.

The committee also discussed storage needs if the current storage room is incorporated into new public space. They also discussed how to minimize the amount of space needed to store donated books.

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Staff also shared concerns about having adequate space for “Library of Things” items. After discussing challenges of play areas near storytime areas, HGA will investigate putting flex space for middle schoolers in the current CMR location and keeping all early literacy areas on the west side of the Youth Services Department.

HGA will send Keefe a copy of the slide deck shared during the meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:38 p.m.

Approved: November 6, 2024