

**Wayland Free Public Library  
Board of Library Trustees  
Meeting Minutes of May 9, 2018  
22 Wayland Hills Road, Wayland, MA 7:00 p.m.**

This was a joint meeting with the Library Planning Committee. Separate minutes were recorded.

**Present:** Aida Gennis, Maureen White, Leah Hart, Judy Dion, Sally Cartwright. Absent: Mark Hughes. Library Director Sandy Raymond. Members of LPC: T. Fay, V. LaFarge, C. Cipriani, N. Gordon, T. Marsters, T. White, R. Sideman-Kurtz, L. Cavanaugh, L. Lipcon, A. Knight, K. Lappin.

**Visitors:** Tom Gennis, Suzanne Woodruff, Margo Melnicove, Alice Boelter.

Ms. Gennis and Mr. Fay welcomed all and explained the meeting would focus on three broad questions as they related to the recent process for bringing a new library to Wayland. Lessons Learned. Ideas for 5 Concord Road. Moving Forward.

**Public Comment:** None.

Library Planning Committee minutes of February 7, 2018 were unanimously approved by members of the LPC.

**Joint discussion with LPC and Trustees:** Ms. Gennis thanked the members of the LPC for all their work on behalf of the library project and she stated the trustees were interested in hearing their feedback on the process and their ideas for the future. Ms. Gennis also said there has been no opinion yet from the Attorney General on the town's petition to probate court regarding the Roby will.

Vicki LaFarge, vice-chair of the LPC, facilitated the discussion.

Lessons Learned: What went well/ What do differently. (*below are summarized comments, positives+ and negatives-*.)

+ Communication pieces were very good, but project was complex and still needed a few more weeks to educate voters. Process was honest and transparent. Site analysis and site selection process were very thorough. All communication - between committees, to public, and with MBLC - were thorough and well done. Engaged the community. New people involved. Thoughtful, deliberate process created passionate supporters. Support of MBLC staff. Strong support for library services in town demonstrated by previous Town Meeting votes and votes in favor at this town meeting but needed more time and more private fundraising. Expertise of the PMBC. Strong work with other town boards and committees helped them understand the project and its benefits to the town. Support of Board of Selectmen, Finance Committee, School Committee.

- Timing of grant award, too soon. Felt rushed. Not enough time to educate public or do private fundraising. Role and influence of PMBC on budget and cost estimate was not clear to public. Difficulty in educating public on complexities of project. Need to enlist the public and proponents sooner. Ignorance of changing role of libraries in vibrant communities. Too expensive. Too big. Location removed from geographic center of town. Difficulty in actually getting to town meeting to vote that evening: satellite parking, bus transport, the weather (the dark and stormy night). Town Meeting process is difficult but need to work with it as it is the system we have. Although BoS and Fin Com supported projects, voters did not get that message. Many questioned "want" versus "need." Difficult to argue with "alternative facts." Wayland's long history of refusing good projects on the first try.

Ideas for 5 Concord Road: How can the current library environment be enhanced? Ms. Gennis suggested we reevaluate the needs of the entire community; children, teens, adults, and seniors before taking any immediate action. *(below are summarized comments.)*

Think about future technology and effect on community, for example: self driving cars, moveable bookcases. Seating for adults and children in Children's Room. Create study spaces on mezzanine, perhaps other locations. Move Children's Room upstairs. Remove wall between Raytheon Room and Children's Room. Create reading room in current Children's Room location. Repair glass in Children's Room window. Use outside amphitheater space. Give strong consideration to staff space needs. Add restrooms on first floor. Portable storage pods, porte-potties. Install automatic door at side entrance to library.

Moving Forward: How reconcile making investment in current 5 Concord road location and building and need for a new library? Need a viable use for 5 Concord Road building; a reuse that gives a sense of a town center still. Need private fundraising momentum and dollars. Possibly apply for grant design money if opportunity arises, supplemented with town money. Establish a foundation. Reconsider location if geographic town center is important. Consider resolution to keep 195 Main Street a potential site for a new library. Revisit the Library Building Program. Consider size. Consider invite public to charrette for ideas for 5 Concord Road. Design for budget instead of for grant requirements. Purchase another property.

Trustees must consider if they are committed to a new library for the town or working within the constraints of the current library building.

Ms. Gennis and Mr. Fay thanked all for participating in the brainstorming discussion. Trustees made no immediate decisions.

**Adjourn:** 9:18 p.m.

**Documents for this meeting:** Agenda for BoLT meeting of May 9, 2018  
Agenda for LPC meeting of May 9, 2018  
LPC Meeting Minutes of February 7, 2018

**Next Meetings:** Wednesday, May 23, 2018, 8:00 a.m. WFPL  
Wednesday, June 13, 2018, 8:00 a.m. WFPL  
Wednesday, June 20, 2018, 8:00 a.m. WFPL, tentative

Respectfully submitted by Sally Cartwright