

City of Yachats
LIBRARY COMMISSION
SPECIAL WORK SESSION
June 13, 2017

Minutes

Commission Chair David Dunsdon called the June 13, 2017 regular meeting of the Library Commission to order at 10:00 am in Room 1 of the Yachats Commons.

Members present: David Dunsdon, Nikki Carlson, Marion Godfrey, Marv Wigle. Absent: none. Staff present: none. City Councilor Barb Frye. Audience: 12.

I. Recommendations to City Council on relocating the Library – Public Input

Diane Allen, Monday librarian: Allen expressed excitement about the chance to move to 501 noting the additional room, better lighting, and less restrictions would enable expansion of library services such as: (a) Using the Library as a living room and a space to hang out with people (she noted five introductions during one shift), (b) Using computers, and (c) Wanting the latest book and being amazed at the inventory of library. Allen believed the 501 space would allow for keeping the feel but making it bigger, noting that at present they have to remove books if they want to put new ones on the shelves. Allen added having the Library closer to Hwy 101 would enable it to be part of Commons events.

Gretchen Armstrong, 11-year library volunteer: Armstrong concurred with Allen's testimony, especially on the "community hub" factor. Armstrong noted she had helped a library move while working in Seattle and saw this potential move as a "golden opportunity" to glean the library inventory. Armstrong strongly favored the light in the 501 building.

Sue May, 17-year library volunteer: May believed the 501 building is "an opportunity of a lifetime." However, May wanted the building for library use only and was not in favor of historical kiosks or ATMs in the new facility. She suggested they use their bequest money to remodel the space to make it usable. May enthusiastically elaborated on the advantageous features of the 501 Building.

Janet Ratcliff, Speaking for Liz Morrell: Ratcliff asked where the money for remodeling would come. She noted Morrell was concerned about having enough space for the children and thought is positive to be able to hold meetings with more than six chairs.

Councilor Frye stated she was thrilled to hear these responses. Frye noted the City owns the building and would be responsible for maintenance and remodeling. Frye state she was impressed with the Library Commissions thought and opinions on the potential move. Frye believed the Council does listen to their concerns. Godfrey and Carlson clarified the Commission cannot make a formal decision until their regular quarterly meeting in July, so they would not be able to present their decision until the July Council meeting. Godfrey noted each of the Council members has a different opinion on the topic.

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2 Armstrong asked for clarification about insurance and city responsibilities. May noted
3 the library has painted and performed maintenance with its own money, not the City's.
4 Allen noted the librarians are going to bring their "warm fuzzies" to the new location, and
5 Godfrey noted the ambiance factor is something the Commission has been considering.
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7 Dunsdon summarized the move decision is the City Council jurisdiction. He stated the
8 Library Commission would make decision at their July meeting. Dunsdon noted the
9 Commission still needed to resolve issues around parking during events at the
10 Commons and control over meeting room usage. Dunsdon's vision was to have two
11 Commission members meet with two City Councilors within the next month to go over
12 details. He emphasized the final decision is entirely up to the Council. Dunsdon
13 believed Council would listen to the Commission.
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15 Armstrong added she would like to see an expansion of library hours.
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17 **II. Draft of Yachats Library Strategic Plan**

18 Dunsdon stated he wants to adopt their Strategic Plan in July, and then present it to the
19 City Council. Carlson summarized the draft Plan and noted the four goals: Succession,
20 Programs, Technology, and Going Forward. Dunsdon noted the draft is in the Yachats
21 Document Library.
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23 Dunsdon asked for public input on draft. Armstrong asked about succession and what
24 that meant. Carlson explained the intent of that goal is to retain continuity and
25 sustainability. Dunsdon asked Carlson if people could email their feedback to her.
26 Carlson welcomed such feedback.
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28 Frye asked if there were timelines attached to the goals. Carlson indicated the
29 Commission is working on a timeline and action plans and would continue to work
30 throughout the year.
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32 Yvonne Wulff asked about plans for paid staff for the library. Wulff argued a paid,
33 professional librarian would alter the Library in undesirable ways. Dunsdon noted the
34 Library Commission could not hire nor enter into contracts. Dunsdon indicated the
35 Council manages paid staffing decisions. Dunsdon reported there is not a plan to hire a
36 librarian, but they would pursue the possibility in the event they could not find a qualified
37 volunteer to fill that role. Carlson added the Commission has job descriptions just so the
38 participants know the duties. Godfrey noted much of the library systems is not written
39 down nor dated. She would like to see improved record keeping. Wigle noted there will
40 likely be some cultural changes during a move and is anticipating differing needs of staff
41 and volunteers due to these changes. Wulff emphasized that they do not want to create
42 a library that is too expensive for the town, and Wigle suggested that outcome is a
43 temptation that might occur with the move.
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45 With no further business before the commission, Dunsdon adjourned the meeting at
46 10:38 am.
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David Dunsdon, Chair

Date

Minutes prepared by H.H. Anderson on June 17, 2017