

Steering Committee Report.

Purpose: Initial interview for renovation design with Architect Jay White on February 6, 2018 at the library

Time: 6:00 pm – 8:00pm

Attendance: Jay White, Carol Freeman, Lori Buik, Anne McKinsey, Lynne Benjamin, Lisa Locke, Peter Keene, Penny Andrew, Shirley Montagne, Emily Heidenreich, Linda Weiss, Suki Houseman.

After introductions, Jay shared his thoughts.

- Jay recommends an elevator rather than a lift. For handicap access, the State of Vermont prefers elevators. Ramps are more expensive and will be difficult with the steepness into the basement.
- Heating system. Storage is at a premium and using the current furnace room for storage is a fire hazard. Jay recommends a heat-pump system (\$4,000) that will be much smaller than the large furnace we have now with a propane backup generator.
- Roof repairs can be addressed when a new heating system is installed and the chimney can be removed.
- Two tone paint with warm lighting will promote welcoming and comforting atmosphere.
- Add a second bathroom (\$5,000) in the basement (improves handicap accessibility) .
- Circulation desk moved to where kitchenette and bookshelves are (in front of the foyer); install new drawers for storage inside the circulation area.
- Flooring. Most popular is carpet tile which can be laid down on top of current carpet to avoid any potential asbestos exposure.
- Repair basement stairway with a less steep u-shaped stairway, add railings and window to add light and improve visibility
- One option to add a north side entrance using a current window.

Audience concerns and questions:

- Questions as to whether users would walk from the parking lot to a north side entrance. Putting the elevator near the current ramp entrance adding a foyer is preferred.
- Looking for a quiet area for computer work. One option is to close off current front entrance and use the current vestibule for a quiet area.
- Would like to be able to secure main floor if there are programs being held in the “lower level” (basement). Hence need for a bathroom in the basement.
- Note that parking lot is not part of the renovation
- Storage is a premium.
- Maintain a comfortable welcoming atmosphere

Next Steps:

Phase I: Jay will provide a functional schematic design for the Board and Steering committee to review in March with a final proposal for the Association Meeting in late April. The design will take into consideration historical preservation and concerns of the Board, and will include floor plans, elevations, elevator and stair renovations. This phase is what is being currently contracted for.

Phase II (if we hire Jay): is obtaining construction estimate (using a consultant) and fine turn schematic design.