

## **Building Committee**

### **Oregon Public Library Meeting Minutes**

Tuesday, July 9 at 5:30 PM

Location: Oregon Public Library (Sue Ames Room), 256 Brook St., Oregon, WI 53575

1. **Call to order** Jennifer Nelson called the meeting to order at 5:30pm.
2. **Roll Call** Members present: Jenny Nelson, Kyle Severson (arr. at 5:37pm), Amanda Peterson, Jenna Jacobson, John Bieno, John Bonsett-Veal, Megwyn Sanders-Andrews. Also attending from OPN Architects: Brett Rottinghaus, Wes Reynolds; Jennifer Endres Way, Library Director, Mary Davidson, Assistant Director (recorder).
3. **Adopt/amend agenda** – Jenna Jacobson made the motion to adopt the agenda as written, John Bieno seconded. Motion carried 6-0.
4. **Approve/amend Minutes from 6/25/19**- John Bieno made the motion to approve the minutes as written, Amanda Peterson seconded. Motion carried 6-0.
5. **Public Comment** –  
**Laura Gochberg, 233 N. Main St, Oregon WI**- Supports the library in the neighborhood, but not tucked in the corner of the lot. Works professionally in visual display, wants the building to be the focal point of the lot, with green space to assist. Wants it to support the historic and residential aspects of Oregon. Doesn't want to place the building somewhere in order to make something else work.  
**Carol Bloom, 291 N. Main St, Oregon WI**- Thinks a slab of a tree looked at historically is not the same as the full tree. She reported on her visit to the LaCrosse PL, who feels their parking lot of 83 spaces, along with street parking, is adequate. Referred to a study of how important green space is, and will share that with Way.
6. **Informational Items:**
  - a. Email from Laura Gochberg
  - b. Letter from Sara Dewey
  - c. Letter from Susan Shedivy
  - d. Letter from Rae Vogeler
7. **Discussion and Possible Action Items**
  - a. **Discussion on Variance Request**- Way reported feedback from 3 neighbors who were not in favor of variance. Reynolds reported the village said they wouldn't move forward with a variance without approval from the affected property owner(s). The option presented at the last meeting to move the building closer to Main St. would still require variance because of what it does to the parking.
  - b. **Site Design Update**- Rottinghaus recapped the previous meetings, reminding the committee these plans are very preliminary. Option 2 was presented as an alternative; it is similar to the previously preferred option, and would respect all the setbacks and zoning requirements, save Tree #12, and provide for future expansion.
  - c. **Building Design Update**- Option 2 would maintain the visual line from the front entrance towards the tree, would break up the façade with glazing opportunities allowing connections between the interior and exterior, and integrate sloped roof elements that would allow for natural light. Various green building features were discussed, along with the cost premium that saving the tree would require.
  - d. **Additional Public Comments on Agenda Items**

**Susan Shedivy, 1860 CTY MM, Fitchburg, WI** – Asked the team to look at the parking lot again, suggesting if they reversed the floor plan tree #11 could be saved. Said there's a lot of land there.

**Carol Bloom, 291 N. Main St, Oregon WI** – Wants more of the building along the property line, to possibly save the other tree.

**Laura Gochberg, 233 N. Main St, Oregon WI**- Appreciates the possibility of saving tree #12.

**Derek Below, 127 Johnson St, Oregon WI**- Loves the idea of saving trees, but wonders at what point it gets cost prohibitive. Likes the look of entrance in 2a, and 2b.

**Brett Teske, 126 Johnson St, Oregon WI**- Thanked the team for working with the neighborhood.

**Cindy Helmer, 151 W Grove St, Oregon WI**– Thanked everyone for the time & effort. Nice to save the tree, but you're doing the best you can.

**Susan Shedivy, 1860 CTY MM, Fitchburg, WI** – Asked is there no interest at all in trying to work the design at the other end of the lot?

**Leif Olson, 276 N. Main St, Oregon WI** –Really likes to save trees, but feels the building takes precedence.

- e. **Vote on Location of Building on Site**- Jacobson asked for a show of hands from the neighborhood to see which design they preferred. Option 2a was preferred. Severson made the motion to accept 2a as the preferred design, which would allow OPN to move forward with the design process. John Bonsett-Veal seconded. Bieno stated he's in favor of moving option 2 forward, but fearful of the cost involved in protecting the trees and making them a priority, which could easily be in the \$200,000-300,000 range. There was agreement in the design being a good one, so if the tree can't be saved, the process will still move forward. Future meetings will include building cost estimates, plus a laundry list of options to pick from, like energy efficiency features. Peterson suggested the possibly there would be a donor who would contribute to the tree. OPN calculated the green space adjacent to the SW of the building in Option 2 at 19,000 SF. Motion carried 7-0.
  - f. **Possible Selection of Future Meeting Date(s)**- July 23, 5:30pm.
8. **Adjournment** John Bonsett-Veal made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:43pm, John Bieno seconded. Motion carried 7-0.