

## **Pleasant Hill Library Task Force Meeting Notes**

Meeting Date: **October 16 2014**

Large Community Room, Pleasant Hill City Hall, 100 Gregory Lane, Pleasant Hill, CA 94523

### **Attendees:**

- Michael Harris, Pleasant Hill City Council
- Jack Weir, Pleasant Hill City Council
- Lisa Chow, Supervisor Mitchoff's Office
- Sandra Bonato, PH Recreation & Park District Board
- Sherry Sterrett, PH Recreation & Park District Board
- Kathy Middleton, Contra Costa Library
- Patrick Remer, Pleasant Hill Library
- Jack Prosek, Pleasant Hill Library Fund
- Katherine Bracken, CCC Library Commission
- Bill Bankert, Planning Commission
- June Catalano, City Manager
- Danielle Habr, City staff
- Martin Nelis, City staff

### **Reports from Sub-committees**

#### **1. Needs Assessment & Sites Analysis**

Chair Harris stated that the Task Force was in receipt of a Memorandum from PH Rec & Park District Manager, Bob Berggren. He suggested that given the many issues and obstacles presented in the memorandum regarding Pleasant Hill Park as a possible site for a new library facility, this site not be considered as one of the main sites under consideration. Sandy Bonato stated that it was premature to dismiss this site. She proposed that the site remain as one of possible sites with further analysis on the issues presented and pending further discussion with County representatives on a possible land swap. She indicated that she had requested a meeting with Supervisor Mitchoff to discuss this issue.

Lisa Chow mentioned that the County was planning to issue an RFP early next year to begin the process of disposing of the County owned properties at Oak Park Blvd. but in order for that to occur, they were anticipating the Task Force having already selected a preferred site for the new library.

Chair Harris stated that given the estimated cost of as much as \$20m to relocate the City's corporation yard, it didn't appear to be feasible to continue consideration of that site as a possible library location. In addition, the only identified location for a new Public Service Center (corpyard) was the Flood Control District property off Beatrice Road. Since this property is in the flood plain it was felt that this was not really viable option as a site for the corpyard and no other site has been identified.

Councilmember Weir made a motion, seconded by Sherry Sterrett, to abandon the corpyard site as a possible location for the new library. The motion passed unanimously.

Chair Harris proposed that staff spend some time researching if there might be other possible sites that have not yet been explored. He also proposed having a townhall/workshop in January to discuss site proposals (two sites with one preferred option) assuming the Task Force was able to finalize its sites recommendation in December. Councilmember Weir was concerned that this was a very short timeline and might require additional meetings of the subcommittees and Task Force.

Chair Harris proposed a Needs Assessment Subcommittee meeting for Monday, December 10<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 a.m. to review the site possibilities and a Task Force meeting on December 17<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 a.m.

## **2. Community Outreach**

Patrick Remer presented the third draft of the FAQ's document. He stated that the document needs to be approved by the Task Force in order for him to use the document when conducting outreach and making presentations to various organizations. Several minor amendments to the document were suggested by Task Force members. Regarding deferred maintenance costs to the current library, Lisa Chow stated that she would find out and report back when the updated report from the County would be released.

The Task Force approved publication of the FAQ's with several edits to be completed by Patrick Remer. Nelis would publish the final version to the City's website.

## **3. Funding/Finance Subcommittee**

Kathy Middleton distributed a matrix on behalf of Jessica Hudson which summarized the cost to build other libraries in Walnut Creek, Lafayette and Orinda. Chair Harris asked the Funding subcommittee to meet before the next Task Force meeting to discuss funding sources and provide a report prior to the next meeting on the cost to build a new facility.

Jack Prosek stated that funding should be looked at as a two stage process with the first stage being funding for development of renderings and doing community outreach including polling. He suggested contacting the East Bay Community Foundation to see if they could be of assistance in this regard. The second step would be the actual design and construction of the facility. Chair Harris asked the Funding subcommittee to discuss funding for stage one of the process. Councilmember Weir suggested that it is likely that when the Task Force reports to the City Council in 2015 with site recommendations it would also include a request for funding for the preliminary work as part of stage one of the process.

Boardmember Bonato asked that the Funding subcommittee include information on other libraries that have been funded in the past ten years in addition to Walnut Creek, Lafayette, and Orinda. Hercules and Brentwood were offered as other examples of libraries build in the last ten years.

The Task Force agreed to meet again on Monday, November 17 at 11:00 a.m.