

Pleasant Hill Library Task Force Meeting Notes

Meeting Date: **December 15, 2014**

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

Attendees:

- Michael Harris, Pleasant Hill City Council
- Sue Noack, Pleasant Hill City Council
- Lisa Chow, Supervisor Mitchoff's Office
- Sandra Bonato, PH Recreation & Park District Board
- Sherry Sterrett, PH Recreation & Park District Board
- Jessica Hudson, Contra Costa County Library
- Jeff McDaniels, MDUSD
- Patrick Remer, Pleasant Hill Library
- Jack Prosek, Pleasant Hill Library Fund
- Katherine Bracken, CCC Library Commission
- Bill Bankert, Planning Commission
- Jennifer Andersen, Education Commission
- Susan Weaver
- June Catalano, City Manager
- Danielle Habr, City staff
- Martin Nelis, City staff

Reports from Sub-committees

Needs Assessment

Chair Harris reported that the Needs Assessment subcommittee had visited two libraries recently – Dougherty Station and San Ramon. Jessica Hudson gave a brief summary of the visit and a description of each of the two libraries visited. Dougherty Station was built in 2006 with funds provided by the development of the surrounding neighborhood. The library is approximately 11,600 square feet. There is also a theater and community center adjacent to the library. The San Ramon library was built in the 1980's and will soon undergo a major renovation to increase space and upgrade to a modern facility with additional features and technology. Both libraries are used extensively by teenagers after school. The San Ramon renovation will cost about \$5m which is being funded by the City. The subcommittee still planned on visiting the Hercules Library.

Chair Harris stated the committee was still looking at various sites for the future library including the three County owned properties off Oak Park Blvd. and Beatrice Road, the PH Middle School Track & Field area owned by MDUSD and Pleasant Hill Park, owned by the PH Rec & Park District. It was agreed that the Task Force would make a presentation to the Rec & Park Board regarding the Pleasant Hill Park location at its meeting on January 8th at 7 p.m. City Manager, June Catalano, also suggested giving an update to the City Council at its meeting on January 12th.

Outreach Subcommittee

Patrick Remer reported that the FAQ's had been completed and posted on the library task force website page. He mentioned that meetings were being scheduled with various groups such as the Rotary, Lions, Senior Center members and others. To date there have been more than one hundred responses to the online survey on the webpage asking for feedback and comments from the general public, and this information will be disseminated and shared with the task force at a future meeting. He also stated that several short promotional videos were being prepared with assistance from the City Channel crew.

Funding Subcommittee

Jessica Hudson presented a draft funding timeline with key elements in moving towards a possible bond measure in the fall of 2016 to fund the construction of a new library. Some of these elements include polling/surveys, a public information campaign, a feasibility study and design costs for the new facility. She stated that the subcommittee was working on a letter of intent to a grant program to Tesoro asking for a \$10,000 grant to be used for Friends of the Library programming. If successful, this would free up funds from the Friends group to be used for future costs as part of a public information campaign about the new facility.

The subcommittee discussed possible costs for polling and a public information campaign. Jessica mentioned that Contra Costa Library has recently engaged with EveryLibrary, a national political action committee, which can provide support and assistance at no cost to the Task Force.

The Task Force asked the Funding subcommittee to reach out to the East Bay Community Foundation for financial support. Staff liaison Nelis also reported that Mark Northcross with NHA financial advisors would be attending the next subcommittee to discuss financing options and funding mechanisms for the construction of the new facility.

The Task Force discussed when it would be appropriate to have a townhall meeting to solicit feedback from the community about what they want to see in a new library facility. It was agreed that a townhall would be scheduled for April and possibly an earlier one in February.

The Task Force agreed to meet again on Monday, January 12 at 11:00 a.m.