

Carter Memorial Library
Board Workshop
Monday June 4, 2018
5:30 PM

Meeting began at 5:30 PM

Attendance: Director Julie Stobbe, Lisa Sharkey, Nicole Bahn, Jim Braasch, Marge Franzke, Barbara Hodgen, Heidi Wahlgren, Stacey Wright. Absent: Tom Ellis

Agenda:

1. Discuss next step to expansion

Discussion centered on what we want to communicate to the newspaper and to the community regarding the needs assessment survey and based on what we learned from the survey.

Items noted:

There were 535 responses, there was an overwhelming support for expansion, and a definite interest in a sustainable design.

The board would like to look at the library hours of operation and evaluate the needs of the community based on the survey results. If expansion occurs, re-evaluation of operation hours will be needed.

Short-term goals for the library expansion based on the survey results:

1. There is a need to communicate the results of the needs assessment survey to the community.
2. The board should explore expansion possibilities: visit the bank building that is for sale, café or commercial space, the soon to be vacant Dollar General building, the historic creamery with the well, partner with the community center in a new building, explore any school property, partner with city hall.
3. Consider hiring a project person who would be responsible for marketing the library, organize fundraisers, post on social media, and look for grants.
4. Form a new Carter Memorial Library Fundraising Group that would work with a project person, involve all ages, partner with a business or / and partner with civic organizations.

There is a need to summarize the long list of survey results into something shorter that can be communicated to the public:

* responses indicated an interest in enlarging the collection of books and DVDs, add spaces for reading in a comfortable surrounding and a need for programming that would include, but not limited to, book clubs, art projects and movies.

* responses indicated an interest in a family friendly children's area and additional digital resources for children.

* responses indicated an interest in spaces designated for socializing, a teen friendly area, a café space, and laptop checkout.

* Priorities based on the survey findings would be: expansion of the library, expanding the library hours, providing a café or meeting spot, and having gathering spaces for socializing or to read.

Long term goals for the library expansion based on the survey results: evaluate and change hours that the library is open, update the programming that is available for patrons.

The board of trustees and director's goal worksheet that Heidi Wahlgren is compiling, will be presented at the June 18th regular board meeting.

Meeting ended at 7:10 PM

Respectfully submitted
Marge Franzke, secretary