

CHARLOTTE MECKLENBURG
LIBRARY

**Infrastructure Committee
South County Regional
Conference Room**

Monday, July 14th, 2014

10:30 a.m.

Trustees:

Bob Sink
Leland Park

Library Staff:

Frank Blair – Director of Technology & Operations
Lee Keesler – Chief Executive Officer
Angie Myers – Chief Financial Officer
Donovan Craig – Administrative Coordinator
Susan McDonald – South County Regional Library Location Manager

Meeting Report

Bob Sink welcomed all to the meeting and began with the motion to approve the previous meeting report which was seconded by Leland Park.

Old Business

Frank Blair began by mentioning that the alternative site selection for the Morrison Regional Library renovation was still premature. At this time the Library is beginning to fielding cold calls from architectural firms. Leland Park mentioned that it would be beneficial to the Library, if during the selection process, consideration was made for those firms who have a history with the area and location.

Mr. Blair stated that this will be the first time that County will manage the bid process for a project of this scale on behalf of the Library. Mr. Blair is working with Mark Hahn to develop a process that can also be used for subsequent large capital projects. Mr. Sink added that the Library Board of Trustees will make the final selection and award the contract.

Frank Blair discussed having a Library Planner and/or a RFID Consultant as part of the architectural team. Mr. Park agreed that it would be desirable for the Library to have such a specialist as an outside advisor to the architectural team instead of being incorporated

under the architect's umbrella. Bob Sink advised Mr. Blair to discuss the matter with his County equivalent.

Lee Keesler commented that having a programmatic design & planning team for the Library to provide oversight on both interior and exterior design would be beneficial. Mr. Keesler mentioned that Jennifer Appleby of Wray Ward could provide insight into firms that could do this. Bob Sink agreed and mentioned Jon Boyer with the Bechtler Museum could provide experienced insight. Ms. Myers commented that there needs to be a tie-in between the brand (iCan) and the design of the building, both interior and exterior.

Facilities Update

Frank Blair informed the attendees that the Main Library carpet replacement was well underway with the first floor replacement almost complete and that the installers would begin with the second floor this evening.

Technology Updates

Frank Blair went on to say that the Library has received a grant from the state for the funding of the ILS Planning project. These funds will provide support for the RFQ in researching designs for and RFID system for the library. The library will also contribute financial to this project.

New Business

Frank Blair recently visited the San Diego Public Library and among the many highlights noted that they had recently begun using the EnvisionWare 24 hour Library. After reviewing the information provided, all participants were in agreement that it would be beneficial to Charlotte Mecklenburg Library to investigate the possibility of providing 24 hour kiosk to patrons. Susan McDonald surmised that by providing 24 hour access to library materials, these kiosks would be highly utilized by the public. Ms. McDonald's recommendation would be to provide these at the smaller branch locations or offsite locations where access to library facilities is limited.

Lee Keesler pointed out that the kiosks could provide greater access to patrons who congregate on campuses, for example the Wells Fargo campus off of W T Harris Blvd. Bob Sink recommended assembling a task force to conduct research regarding where the greatest need for these kiosks would be as well as their specific placement and requirements for operation. CFO Angela Myers and CEO Lee Keesler would consider approaching County mid fiscal year to see if funding could be reallocated to pilot this project in the near future. Frank Blair mentioned that the kiosks are capable of providing sponsorship opportunities on the exterior of the unit as well as on the electronic interface. Mr. Keesler stated that these types of projects help the library extend their services beyond the 20 physical locations.

Mr. Blair went on to mention that San Diego recently opened their Main Library downtown, a 500,000 square foot facility which includes a separately operated magnet High School. Mr. Blair also noted that it took approximately 10 years for the building development, from planning to opening, and that the location changed numerous times throughout the planning stages. Notable items were the active meeting room rental program which provides revenue for the library.

Lee Keesler noted that leaders of the City of Pineville had again contacted him regarding a library location in and/or around the City of Pineville. Mr. Blair recommended contacting County to find out when the next CIP begins as this will impact the timeline for a library location in that area.

Mr. Keesler also provided an update regarding the North Tryon redevelopment stating that a selection for the architect had been made.

Discussion/Tour South County Regional Library

Susan McDonald, location manager for the South County Regional Library provided the group with a tour of the location, stating that South County recently exceeded 1 Million circulated items within the last fiscal year. South County accounts for approximately 1/5th of all circulated materials in the system. Ms. McDonald noted that the location is heavily utilized by its patrons, anything from children's story times to tutoring, to use as an office space. Ms. McDonald stressed that their greatest need is for an enclosed computer lab in order to conduct programming to adults and teens.

Travel to Steele Creek Library

Tour Steele Creek Library

Circulation Manager Angela Allen toured the Trustees around the branch noting that the Steele Creek library is currently the only library within the system to have a collocation with an adjacent Middle School. Ms. Allen noted the locations greatest needs were more flexible programming space and more meeting room/collaborative space. Ms. Allen also mentioned that Mr. Clifford (Jack) Austin Jr. was a major contributor to the Steele Creek library, for which the community is grateful.

Close