

Carpenter Carse Library Meeting Minutes - DRAFT

Thursday, October 29, 2020 at 7:30pm via Zoom

Attendees: Katherine Kjelleren, Heather Roberts, Paul Lamberson, Brian Dunlop, Jim Jarvis, Emily Alger, Marianna Holzer, Catherine Moller, Susan Evans McClure and Beth Royer

C space:

A new tenant, the makers of Bag Balm, will be renting the C space beginning January 1st at \$950/month. The current tenant will be vacating at the end of November and the space will be empty for a month - which will give us time to install a kitchenette. Jim proposed that Paul be authorized to spend whatever is necessary to get this done for the new tenant. Marianna 2nd. Approved.

Solar installation:

The Finance Committee met earlier this evening and unanimously supports moving forward with the proposal from Green Mountain Solar (vendor)/ Paul Lesure & his wife (investors). They are offering the highest discount on our electric bill. We don't need to outlay any money at the beginning but would need to buy the system at fair market value in 7 years.

Susan emphasized that there should be a plan to raise/set aside the funds that we will need to buy this in seven years - which Jim believes will be in the range of \$50,000. With our current donor pool, that is a lot to ask. Paul mentioned the possibility of a sinking fund or targeted fundraising. Are there grants available?

Katherine is concerned about what responsibilities will fall on the staff once the seven years have gone by. She also reminded us of the wind turbine in Geprags Park that the library was connected to at one time. There wasn't a good understanding among the community of how much it benefitted the library. Katherine also questioned whether there would be additional insurance required that could eat up our electricity savings. And what happens if something happens to the investor or the health of their business during the course of the seven year period?

Katherine questioned whether we will qualify for the incentives to make it worth moving forward quickly. Jim said that we did apply for the Certificate of Public Good by October 31st and substantial efforts in installation should be possible by December 31st (ordering the panels - which Green Mountain Solar has in stock).

Emily made a motion to authorize the Finance Committee to proceed with a solar project with Green Mountain Solar assuming that we get positive information regarding questions of insurance, succession planning, etc. with a commitment that we put a fundraising plan in place in the next 12 months to pay for the panels at the end of the term. Paul 2nd. Approved.

The Finance Committee will meet with Paul Lesure and among themselves to finalize the project plan. If any major concerns come up, the Finance Committee will come back to the full board.

Other business:

Jim will let us know when he is planning to change bulbs at the library so that others can help as they are able.

Jim moved to adjourn. Paul 2nd. The next meeting is Wednesday, November 18th at 7:00pm.
Adjourned at 8:40pm.