

# Mont Vernon Library Building Committee Minutes

December 14<sup>th</sup>, 2023

- I. The meeting was called to order at 7:32 p.m.

Name	Role	Present
Bill McKinney	Chair	✓
Christine Hamilton	Member	Via Zoom
Mike Jungers	Member	✓
Cindy Raspiller	Advisor – Library Trustee	✓
John Quinlan	Advisor – Selectmen	✓
Penny Dickson	Advisor – Landscaping	✓
Anne Dodd	Advisor – Daland Trustee	Absent
Jill Weber	Advisor – Daland Trustee	✓
Bonnie Angulas	Advisor – Library Director	✓
Adrienne Penkacik	Advisor – MV Con Comm	Absent
Larry Breckenridge	Advisor – MVLCF	Absent
<b>Guests</b>		
Scott Foster – Daland Trustees, Jane King – Library Trustees, Jane-Holly Weintraub – Daland Trustees (via Zoom)		

- II. Public Comment

- None

- III. Call to Order

- IV. Public Comment

- V. Review Minutes

- The LBC reviewed the minutes from 11/1/23 and 11/15/23. McKinney moved that the minutes from both meetings be approved and Jungers seconded. The motion carried.

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## VI. LBC 12/6 Public Meeting Recap

- Transfer Station insights – Breckenridge and Weintraub covered one weekend and Raspiller and Hamilton covered the other. Raspiller shared that there were several people who did interact. All were very polite. Some were in favor, and some were clearly not. While many seemed to have made up their minds, one resident chatted for quite a while and was open to having his inaccurate assumptions about the project corrected. Weintraub agreed that there is significant misinformation out there. The group discussed ways to better share information with the public.
- Info Session Feedback – Angulas commented that it is disappointing that residents don't trust the work of the staff, the Trustees and Library Building Committee. All three groups have done an incredible amount of work done by so many residents to bring this valuable project before the voters at the best price possible and the Foundation has worked tirelessly to bring significant private money to the table. Raspiller asked Angulas to thank JoAnn Kitchel for meeting personally with two residents who attended the Info Session to better understand their concerns. One interesting concern that was raised was the idea that there are hidden costs that the LBC hasn't accounted for. Weintraub said she felt this was well answered at the info session by Hamilton and Angulas who indicated that furnishings and technology are included in the project cost and that the town has access to several trust funds through the Trustee of the Trust Funds that are dedicated to the library and will more than cover the cost of the expanded collection envisioned in the new library and can also support additional technology if needed.
- Several members commented on positive feedback they've personally received following the Info Session in contrast to the small number of negative posters on social media.
- LBC FAQs development – Hamilton suggested that developing infographics on key topics and posting them on the LBC website might be helpful in having a place to point to when there are questions on social media. McKinney used the ADA provisions significant impact on the size of public buildings as an example of topics to consider including. Angulas reminded the group that size was determined not by the LBC or the Trustees but was based on a professional Needs Assessment completed by an outside expert. Hamilton suggested looking at a way to depict the way property tax dollars are spent in Mont Vernon to help demonstrate what a small piece of the tax pie the municipal budget is in the overall tax

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budget. Another potential infographic topic is where the private \$ comes from and the constraints on how it can be used.

- McKinney suggested continuing to share positive Library news on social media. Angulas mentioned that she has feedback from three NH librarians whose towns that have recently built new buildings. Their statistics verify that the new library will see significant increases in many or most metrics, despite already being one of the busiest of its size in the area.

## VII. Strategic Advisory Committee (SAC)/Capital Improvement Program (CIP)

- Angulas reminded the team that the SAC's proposed CIP is in the approval process with the Planning Board and Select Board. At the request of the Select Board, the SAC has spent the last two years updating the MV Master Plan and developing a draft CIP for the town. They recently presented their draft report which shows the library project as a key first step in a long-range plan to address many issues with the town infrastructure.

## VIII. Second Library Video

- MVLCF has offered to coordinate a second library video produced by the same creator who did the video shown at the 12/16 Info Session. Filming is scheduled for 1/8/24. There are opportunities for demographics to be included that were not featured in the earlier version, which focused on kids and families.

## IX. Email Communications

- The group discussed the need to establish official town email addresses to simplify communications and improve LBC credibility and clarify that this is a Mont Vernon town project. It would also allow the LBC to post on social media that questions directed the LBC will be answered within 3 days.

## X. Building Permit Review Update – McKinney

- The Board of Selectmen have called a meeting on Wednesday night to discuss the issues raised by the MVFD and the Building Inspector. It is intended to be a small meeting including just the LBC voting members, the Select Board representative, the Fire Chief and the Building Inspector. McKinney indicated that Turnstone is working on an estimate for a full sprinkler system and a cistern alternative. He does not have the final version but has been told that the cistern option is about \$50K and that the initial DSK estimate of \$350K for a compliant sprinkler system is in the right ballpark. McKinney reported that he is continuing to ask for a formal written response from the FD on the plans they have had for many months. They are indicating

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verbally that the outside review they shared a year ago may be their formal response. The issues raised by the Building Inspector are based on residential construction. In a municipal project these are normally handled by phased approval process where the architect writes a letter on the energy design parameters and later certifies that the building was built in accordance with the design. McKinney believes this can be clarified in the working meeting.

## XI. Thank You

- Raspiller thanked the group for the incredible effort they have put forth on behalf of the town, commenting that the time and energy that the LBC has invested have far exceeded her initial estimates, yet everyone has just buckled down and done the work.

## XII. Deferred Turnstone Action Items – Due January

- Estimate for a compliant sprinkler system for a building of this size and occupancy type.
- Alternate estimate for a cistern to supply an onsite source of water to address MVFD water supply concerns.
- Updated 2024 overall project cost estimate.

## XIII. Action Items

- Raspiller/Hamilton – Develop a series of infographics to post on the LBC webpage.
- Quinlan – Establish a Town Email Address for the Library Trustees/LBC.

## XIV. Future Meeting Schedule

- LBC Meeting - at 7:00 on 1/3/24 at the library
- Future meetings will be biweekly through Town Meeting.

## XV. Agenda Items for Next Meeting

## XVI. The meeting was adjourned at 9:03 PM.