

CITY COMMISSION WORK SESSION
December 2, 2014

The work session was called to order by Mayor Kenneth Bradley at 9:36 a.m. in the Commission Chambers, 401 Park Avenue South, Winter Park, Florida.

Members present:

Mayor Kenneth Bradley
Commissioner Steven Leary
Commissioner Sarah Sprinkel
Commissioner Tom McMacken
Commissioner Carolyn Cooper

Also present:

City Manager Randy Knight
Deputy City Clerk Michelle Bernstein

Others present:

Shawn Shaffer, Executive Director, Winter Park Public Library
Winter Park Library Facility Task Force Members: Dr. Bruce Douglas, Sam Stark, Gary Barker, Daniel Butts, Jeffrey Jontz, Joel Roberts, Jan Walker and Chip Weston

This meeting was a work session with no public input. Its purpose was for the Library Task Force to present their final report to the City Commission and to discuss their recommendations regarding the future of Winter Park's Public library.

Winter Park Public Library

Board member Sam Stark provided a brief outline regarding the Executive Summary Report which included determination of need, recommendation for location, projections of costs, recommendation for funding strategy and recommendations/requested action items.

Commission discussion ensued regarding the advantages and disadvantages with each site, if we should look into retrofitting the existing library as we did with City Hall versus raising property taxes, the need to establish a financing plan such as a voter referendum on bonds or pay with cash on hand, fund raising campaign and/or sale of other assets and if the task force should sunset or continue.

Board members Chip Weston and Jeffrey Jontz answered questions related to the feedback received from the public forums that were held and the financing strategies and estimated construction costs for each of the recommended sites.

There appeared to be a consensus to move forward with a new library and to go to a voter referendum to approve financing for at least a portion of the cost. There was not a clear consensus on a preferred site. It was noted that the Task Force is scheduled to sunset at the end of the year. If the Commission wishes for it to continue for some purpose it would need to take action to extend it.

The meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m.



City Clerk Cynthia S. Bonham