Old Library Site Task Force
Minutes
August 14, 2019 at 12 pm
Winter Park City Hall, Chapman Room
401 Park Avenue South | Winter Park, Florida

Call to Order:
The meeting was called to order at 12 pm. Present: Jack Miles, Marjorie Thomas, John Caron, David Lamm, Miguel DeArcos

Absent

Public Comment
The following public comments were made:

Michael Perelman, 1010 Greentree Drive, stated the order of options within the summary report outline should be of importance to the board. He suggested that the order establishes priority based on how information is received, and the board should take note of that.

Gina “Bean” Davidson, 1055 Cherokee Avenue, advocated for activism space including art driven installations at the site, and even ideas that could be socially conscience. This may also include a learning space, flex space, or research on public initiatives. She acknowledged leadership and funding sources as would need to be identified.

Kevin O’Rawe, 1833 Loch Bethany Road, stated the current library is in disrepair, which was a reason for the library to be moved in the first place. He commended on demolishing the old library site and selling it in order to renovate the City Hall property. He also mentioned All Saints Church as a potential partner for shared parking.

Approval of Minutes
Motion made by Miguel DeArcos to approve the July 17, 2019 minutes. Seconded by John Caron. Motion passes 5-0.

New Business
A. Update on Community Input Received – Peter Moore, Division Director, introduced the public input received by staff on how the old library site may be used. Included as part of the packet was commentary by the public to staff via email, news articles from periodicals, and an impact report from the city’s social media outlets. He stated that many responses mirrored discussions had by the board including municipal, nonprofit, co-working, or
office/retail use. In addition Mr. Moore commented on additional organizations who have talked about the property with staff including owners of the Douglas Grand building, Winter Park Playhouse, Edyth Bush Foundation, Winter Park Day Nursery, food hall concept stakeholders and other private interests. Discussion ensued. The board additionally requested a timeline for a deliverable and response to the Commission.

B. Review of Draft Outline for Report – Peter Moore, Division Director, introduced the summary report provided by staff as part of the agenda packet. He identified the basic description of the site, previous studies, and the appraisal as the initial context of the document. He additionally suggested the report include public comment, stakeholder review, comments, constrains, findings, and ranking of operations. Board discussion ensued regarding the order, components and placement priority of the report. It was decided that due to the opportunity that the library site provides, there should be a closer examination of two scenarios that consider how renovating City Hall could be imagined. The first scenario would involve doing minimal improvements to the Old Library Building and temporarily relocating city staff there while the current City Hall site is renovated. The second scenario would propose permanently moving City Hall staff to the Old Library site but leaving the ceremonial functions at the current City Hall site and then contemplating incorporating other uses such as leasable office space, parking components, and food-hall/makers-mart concepts along Lyman. The Task Force asked staff to look into having draft site concepts and space needs studies as part of the final report.

Adjourn
There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 1:24pm.

Task Force Representative

Board Liaison, Peter Moore