

Library Building Meeting Minutes

May 19, 2025

Present: Carol Buote, Erica Miller, Matt Chabot, Dean Larabee, Tabitha McCrohan, Brian Bianchi, Paul Dugan, Steve DePaolo

1. Meeting was called to order at 7:01pm.
2. Minutes of May 6 meeting will be reviewed at the next meeting.
3. Discussion of CHA proposed contract for OPM:
 - a. Items 4,5 and 12 b have been deleted as a cost saving measure. BB and SD are comfortable with these changes. Item 4 is “Conduct site visit for interested designers”. Committee members providing this will save CHA travel and time expense. Item 5 is “coordinate Ad with District/Post in C. Reg.” MC can do this. Independent cost estimate (12b) will be required at some point, depending on level of detail. BB and SD can provide square footage cost estimate, while an in-depth exam will take an independent reviewer several weeks to complete and the \$15,000 cost is reasonable for that. Overall cost of \$60 to \$70 thousand is close to MBLC estimate of this phase.
 - b. Timing of submission of design to MBLC. We are on the MBLC waitlist, Freetown is ahead of Berkley. Discussion of the current appetite of townspeople for cost of construction of a new building in Berkley. There are no other infrastructure projects proposed at this time. We are unable to ask MBLC to delay. Town support is key, and we do not want to spend \$75,000 for plans that are unable to be implemented.
 - c. Impact of proposed town budget on our proposal. Town meeting is scheduled for June 2. Discussion of source of funds to prevent large budget cuts to town services. DL proposed that the Committee request “that the Town Board of Selectmen authorize acceptance the CHA contract contingent upon adequate Library funding for FY I 2026.” MC seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous consent.
4. Schedule of meetings of this committee: Monday evenings at 7 pm continues to be the best time for all members to attend. Next meeting will be June 9 at 7 pm, after the Town Meeting.
5. TB made a motion to close the meeting. DL seconded the motion. The committee voted unanimously to close the meeting at ____ pm.