

Keene Public Library Finance Committee Meeting Minutes

March 12, 2019

Present: Sally Miller, Judy Putnam, George Scott, Ken Jue, Tammy Parrott (staff assistant director), Nancy Vincent (Library Director) Paul Henkel, Nat Stout (Pres., KPL Trustees)

Agenda: Renovation design change: build wall at front of building between the West St. Walkway and the lawn

Paul Henkel presented a potential design change at the front of the library that involves the West St. Walkway, front lawn and the Linden tree. The change is related to unanticipated an height issue that could cause dirt to erode toward a tree's roots. There has already been a change to the bus stop with the addition of a short wall and reshaping of the sidewalk.

A few stairs in the front were designed that would lead down to the lawn from the walkway, and the question was raised if it would be desirable to have banisters alongside the steps. The design of the walkway has it approximately 30" above the lawn, which leads to a concern that the height difference may create a potential hazard. We discussed options to construct a wall along the walkway or add some sort of barrier, such as a rod iron fence, shrubs, etc. There is also the potential that dirt could wash down and erode toward the tree's roots. A wall could p also help to prevent the potential of dirt eroding to the tree roots, which would harm the tree. It was also noted that the tree may already be deteriorating and have a limited life expectancy. Paul Henkel informed the committee that the cost estimate of building a wall is \$21,500.

After some discussion, it was decided to not build a wall along the walkway at this point, but proceed with the construction of the walkway and bring in granite blocks to place around the tree to fend off any dirt erosion toward the tree roots. We will stay alert to the situation and may elect to do something at a future point to deal with a threat to the tree.

We want to thank Paul Henkel for bringing this issue to us for our attention and consideration and for helping us to understand the situation.

Next Month Finance Committee meeting: Tuesday, April 9, 2019 @ 9:30 a.m.

1. Gail Zaccariah, children's librarian, will be invited to present her budget to us.

Submitted by,

Kenneth Jue

3/12/19