

**TOWN OF NORWELL  
Advisory Board  
Meeting Minutes  
March 21, 2017**

TOWN OF NORWELL  
TOWN CLERK  
2017 MAR 31 AM 10:31  
RECEIVED

The Advisory Board Meeting was held at the Norwell Public Library. Roger called the Meeting to order at 7:00pm. Present were Susan Powell, Mark Maiellano, Ralph Gordon, Amy Koch, Jane Stout, Tim Greene and Karen Reynolds. Jacky McClean was absent. Also present were Town Administrator Peter Morin.

**ACTION ITEMS / DISCUSSIONS**

The Meeting tonight involved in depth discussion with members of the Library Committee on the proposed Library Project. Present were Ellen Allen of the Board of Selectmen, Judy McConarty Library Director, Scott Brodsky Chairman of the Library Project and member of the PBMC, Jean Ivas and Christine Smith Library Board of Trustees.

The purpose of the Meeting was to discuss and vote the Articles for the Warrant of the Annual Town Meeting.

1. To see if the Town will vote to accept the schematic design of the Norwell Public Library contingent upon receipt of a State grant.
2. To authorize the Library Trustees of the Norwell Public Library to apply for any State funds which might be available to defray all or part of the cost of the design, construction and equipping of the library project and to authorize the Library Building Committee and/or Board of Selectmen and/or Library Trustees to accept and expend any such funds when received without further appropriation.

This process began over two years ago when a Long Range Plan was submitted to the MA Board of Library Commissioners. Since then, The Norwell Library Building Program was completed. This document, based on data collected from the community, serves as a guidebook/set of instructions from the Library Director, Trustees and Staff to the architect. The site at 64 South Street was approved. The Board of Selectmen established a Library Committee to conduct a feasibility study for a construction grant. Town Meeting approved a transfer of money for the purpose of planning and designing a new Town Library. A Letter of Intent was filed with the MBLC and the Construction grant was submitted 1/9/2017. If approved, roughly \$6million or 46% of eligible costs will be reimbursed by the grant. The Library Project Committee completed the feasibility schematic which is on display at the Library.

Library Director, Judy McConarty, conducted a tour of the 8,500 sqft Library pointing out the cramped spaces, nonexistent Children's Librarian Office, small and uninviting Teen Corner while reinforcing the fact that there are no small study/meeting rooms and the computer server is housed in a 2x2 converted closet. It is also important to note the aging electrical, plumbing & HVAC systems are not fully accessible and have never been updated. Maintenance of this

building is a great financial concern. The proposed Library addresses each of these concerns and the building is designed to accommodate the current and future demands of library patrons.

The MBLC will announce grant recipients in July 2017. There are 34 Towns applying for grants. Not all grant money will be awarded this year. Norwell anticipates receiving the grant in the middle round. The Town will have six months from that time to get Town approval and secure a bond for the total cost of the project. While conversation gravitated toward concerns of the total cost of the Project, the questions for tonight were the two Articles stated above.

Motion to accept the Article for schematic design of the Norwell Public Library contingent upon receipt of a State grant for the Warrant of the Annual Town Meeting. *Seconded and passed 8-0.*

Motion to accept the Article to authorize the Library Trustees of the Norwell Public Library to apply for any State funds which might be available to defray all or part of the cost of the design, construction and equipping of the library project and to authorize the Library Building Committee and/or Board of Selectmen and/or Library Trustees to accept and expend any such funds when received without further appropriation for the Warrant of the Annual Town Meeting. *Seconded and passed 8-0.*


**Norwell Public Library Budget** - Motion to approve the request from the Norwell Public Library for the total budget of \$615,404. *Seconded and passed 8-0.*

#### **FUTURE MEETINGS**

Thursday, March 23, 2017 at 7:00pm

Tuesday, March 28, 2017 at 7:00pm

**Adjourn** - Motion made to Adjourn. *Seconded and passed 8-0.*

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Roger Hughes, Chairman