

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Yankton Community
Library Building Task Force**
February 24, 2010, 5:30 p.m.
Library meeting room

Vice Chair Galen Goeden called the meeting to order at 5:33 p.m. Present were Task Force members Dick Anderson, Jane bobzin, Kim Conlin, Jim Cope, David Koerner, David Leonard, and Kathryn Reimler. Also present were District III planner Eric Ambroson and Library Director Kathy Jacobs. Absent with regrets was Robert Pulsher.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion by Bobzin and second by Conlin to accept the January meeting minutes.
Unanimous approval.

Director's Report:

Jacobs reported that Architect Jim Schramm would not be present at the meeting. She also stated that Bob Pulscher wanted further information on parking spaces from Schramm and she would request that so he can present it next month as he will attend the March meeting.

A brief discussion about library signage followed Jacobs' report on the current signs. She will continue to pursue smaller signs for the Auld-Brokaw Trail.

Old Business:

Community planning process: Ambroson was contacted by the National Trust for Historic Preservation and was asked to encourage the task force to consider a new site possibility, the Melette Building at the Human Services Center. The group felt the site has potential as the Mead Building and soccer fields may be the beginning of a cultural campus. There is possible grant funding to help with the study of the building and there may be historic preservation grants available if the site is chosen.

Jacobs will contact the City and discuss the site with them. She will also contact Cory Nelson from HSC and set up a time to look at the building and notify the task force of the time and date. The Library Board and Jim Schramm will also be invited.

Ambroson presented the group with an outline of the focus groups, as he and Jacobs had agreed upon. There will be ten groups: educators, business/civic leaders, teens, senior citizens, families with elementary/preschool children, families with middle/high school students, young adults ages 20-35, county residents, Baby Boomers, and library staff. All meetings will be held at the library at different times of the day as groups require. The meetings will include a brief PowerPoint presentation, the focus questions, and a wrap up. The following questions were submitted:

- What's really good about the library, its strengths?
- What could be improved, its weaknesses?

- If you were building the perfect library from scratch for Yankton, what would it look like? What's in it: What goes where?
- What else would you use if it were available?
- What factors should be considered when selecting a site for the library?
- Other comments

Jacobs is working on a web survey that will coincide with the focus groups. Attendees will be encouraged to take the web survey also. An additional question that will be added to the web survey is: Are you opposed to a new library? If so, why?

Focus groups will begin during National Library Week, April 11-17, and should be completed by April 30. Ambrosion will facilitate as many of the groups as possible. If he is unavailable, Jacobs will facilitate. Notes will be taken on the computer and on flip charts.

A discussion followed on who would be invited. Jacobs sent around a new sheet of names submitted by task force members, asking that they add names and label those people they knew according to the targeted groups. It was decided that names of persons who may be opposed to the project be added to the list or sent to Jacobs as soon as possible as it is important for everyone to feel that they have input in our process and that their input is valued.

Jacobs will group the submitted names and send that out to the task force in the next meeting packet. She will also include dates and times of each focus group so that task force members can decide which group they have time to attend as the group felt it was important that one task force member attend each focus group session.

Consensus of the task force was that the work done thus far on the focus groups was good. Jacobs and Ambrosion will proceed with the plans.

Space needs analysis report:

Because Schramm was not present, there was little discussion on the report. Jacobs did hand out the information about a second story which will be discussed next month along with Schramm's other reports.

New Business:

Election of Chair or Vice Chair: Goeden stated that he feels he is out of town too much to be chair of the group. He would gladly remain as Vice but feels he does not have the time to devote to chair. Koerner volunteered to be Chair. With that, Reimler nominated Koerner for Chair and Conlin seconded the motion. Unanimous approval.

Other Business: A discussion was held on what grant funds may be available. Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) funds have been used in some states to fund libraries. Jacobs stated that the State Library must apply for those funds through the federal government for a specific purpose. Local libraries can then apply to the State Library for grants. She is not aware that the South Dakota State Library applies for any

funds. She also stated that in recent years, those funds have been filtered to technology rather than buildings. Bobzin commented that perhaps we could fund computers in that way.

Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) are also available for library construction but the city must qualify. That qualification comes through the average income of city residents. In speaking with Dave Mingo, Jacobs learned that some areas of Yankton, in particular, the southeast quadrant, could qualify as a blighted area so if the library were located in that area, we may qualify for a grant. However, not all parts of the City would qualify. However, Jacobs continued, with the downturn in the economy which will be recorded in the 2010 census, the entire city may qualify more easily.

Next meeting: Wednesday, March 24, 2010, 5:30 p.m.

Adjourn: Motion to adjourn at 6:54 p.m. by Koerner. Second by Conlin.

Respectfully submitted

Kathy Jacobs, Library Director