

**Plainfield Public Library District
Building & Expansion Planning
Citizens Task Force
June 11, 2015**

Attending were 13 members of the public, with representatives from the Plainfield Park District, Plainfield Fire Protection District, Plainfield School District 202, Village of Plainfield, Plainfield Township, State Representative Mark Batinick, Friends of the Library, Plainfield Historical Society and Historic Preservation Commission as well as members of the general public. Herald News reporter Vikaas Shanker was also present.

The presentations began with Library Director Julie Milavec speaking on the Library building's history and statistics to demonstrate the need for an expansion. The Nagle Hartray team then went through their presentation (see 15_0611_PPL Task Force Meeting.pdf) and opened the floor for questions and comments.

The overarching and resounding sentiment was support for the Library to remain in the downtown.

Ideas suggested:

- parking deck
- pedestrian bridge to Academy site for additional parking
- storm water detention off site (former memorial triangle site specifically)
- storm water detention under building
- underground parking for whole lot

Comments:

- new construction will be a hard sell for downtown site
- greenfield site - NO, even if different location
- downtown is a central, social location
- industrial development on Village's greenfield site would be better for all government entities
- Village will support the Library whatever is decided :-)
- Building - problems behind the walls will increase cost of remodeling/reuse (40yrs experience in building trades)
- value in dollars and cents of greenfield site, but doesn't consider other factors
- challenges of marrying the traditional current building with new addition
- fit will be important to historic context - how to make a building of this size fit with downtown

- addition option would require additional staffing

Three individuals stated outright that options 2 and 5 for the current site resonated with them. The group concurred.

- other options turn their back on Rt 59
- retain both pedestrian way and vehicle access to Rt 59
- library as focal point of downtown

**Plainfield Public Library District
Building & Expansion Planning
Public Meeting
June 13, 2015**

Attending were 8 members of the public and Trustee Jason Puetz as a member of the public. A reporter from the Enterprise was also present.

The presentations began with Library Director Julie Milavec speaking on the Library building's history and statistics to demonstrate the need for an expansion. The Nagle Hartray team then went through their presentation (see 15_0611_PPL Task Force Meeting.pdf) and opened the floor for questions and comments.

The overarching and resounding sentiment was that the Library should stay in the downtown. Its central location for the district was noted as not showing favoritism for any location (north vs. south).

Ideas:

- do design consideration on split level design - more detail
- investigate existing building designs
- auditorium could be revenue source
- balance design and cost in downtown options
- downtown is central - no favoritism in location
- parking not as high of a priority with this group
- off-site meeting on north end of district might get more attendance

Comments:

- Coffee with the Mayor: Mackinaw Island MI has larger library for 4k people than ours
- Concept 3 more dangerous - cut through parking lot
- greenfield site as "dregs"
- greenfield site poor location due to trains, noise, traffic
- did not like the comparison list format
- emotional and economic considerations to decision making
- online questionnaire - emotional component to answers
- will have to "sell" best idea
- homeschooler groups should be involved in planning and referendum
- video vignettes from other libraries' patrons - quality of life improved by library
- not enthusiastic about Concept 1

Concepts 2 and 5 were brought up by 2 individuals as the favored options. Additional comments and ideas for these options were:

- very similar
- 5 has larger square footage
- possible separate entrance for auditorium
- entrance at juncture of L