

Minutes of the Meeting of the
Lafayette Public Library Board of Control
Northeast Library Exploratory Committee

February 9, 2022

Lafayette Public Library Board of Control Northeast Library Exploratory Committee Meeting was held in the meeting room on the 2nd floor of the Main Library at 301 West Congress Street on February 9, 2022. Landon Boudreaux, Chairman of the Committee, called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM.

I. Roll Call

Committee Members Present: Landon Boudreaux, Chairman; Danny Gillane, Director; Larry Angelle, Library Operations Manager; Doug Palombo; James Thomas; Robert Judge; Maisha Chargois; Lynette Mejia; Alton Trahan (arrived 5:31); Azadeh Yazdi (arrived 5:32); Nureaka Ross (arrived 5:32)

Other Staff Present: Terry Roy, Library Administrator; Danielle Breaux, Director's Executive Secretary

Members of the Public: Mitzi Moss Duhon; Mary Lib Guercio; Wayne Colvin

II. Pledge of Allegiance

Landon Boudreaux led the committee in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes of the January 5, 2021 Northeast Library Exploratory Committee was made by James Thomas and seconded by Larry Angelle.

Yeas: Boudreaux, Gillane, Angelle, Palombo, Thomas, Judge, Chargois,
Mejia, Trahan, Yazdi, Ross

Nays: None

Abstained: None

Absent: None

IV. Request for Proposal

Draft RFPs were included in committee packets.

Committee discussed draft RFP for Land, Lease, or Existing Structure and parameters being established in the RFP.

A motion was made by Robert Judge to move forward with the RFP land purchase process and use a five (5) mile radius from the Holy Rosary development. This was seconded by Maisha Chargois.

Mary Lib Guercio stated that density of population is important in terms of access.

Yeas: Boudreaux, Gillane, Angelle, Palombo, Thomas, Judge, Chargois,
Mejia, Trahan, Yazdi

Nays: Ross

Abstained: None

Absent: None

After committee discussion, a motion was made by James Thomas to use the following evaluation criteria for the RFP land purchase process:

General Conditions – 10 percent

Location – 25 percent

Accessibility – 20 percent

Size and Configuration – 15 percent

Price – 20 percent

Ownership – 5 percent

Environmental – 5 percent

This was seconded by Maisha Chargois.

Wayne Colvin stated that he didn't understand the \$300,000 potential savings. He also questioned savings estimated by Sunday closures.

Mary Lib Guercio stated that she agreed that location should be the highest percentage when determining evaluation criteria. Her chief concern is that the library be where people can use it and access it as easily as possible.

Yeas: Boudreaux, Gillane, Angelle, Palombo, Thomas, Judge, Chargois,
Mejia, Trahan, Yazdi
Nays: Ross
Abstained: None
Absent: None

A motion was made by Lynette Mejia to move forward with purchasing land and not moving forward with the RFP for lease. This was seconded by Nureaka Ross.

Mitzi Moss Duhon agreed with building rather than leasing a structure. Money has been taken from the library in the past. The money is currently in the budget and she strongly encouraged the vote to build the library. She commented on the evaluation criteria.

Mary Lib Guercio stated that ideally, property will be donated. The Board can temporarily put something on donated property at a later date. She said that it makes more sense to own vs. rent if the library has the means to do so. She doesn't agree with spending the money on a leased property rather than an owned property.

Wayne Colvin took exception to the fact that money is currently in the budget, because services are currently being cut. He asked if there were projected numbers for buildouts, day-of-week data for other locations in the area, or population data for the area. He asked for expected usage of the library to be built.

Yeas: Chargois, Ross, Yazdi, Trahan, Thomas, Mejia, Angelle, Gillane
Nays: Judge, Palombo, Boudreaux,
Abstained: None
Absent: None

V. Comments from the public on any other matter not on this agenda

Wayne Colvin stated that LPSS is rebuilding Truman Elementary and that may release funds in the future. He stated that the I-49 corridor may also eliminate hazards on Evangeline Thruway.

Boudreaux will consult with Legal on a voting matter.

VI. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:40 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Danny Gillane, Secretary