

**Plainfield Public Library District  
Building & Expansion Planning  
Public Meeting  
August 12, 2015**

Attending were 4 members of the public. Trustees Crystal Andel and Dr. Patricia Miller were also present.

The presentations began with Library Director Julie Milavec speaking on 21<sup>st</sup> century library services and how those ideas are shaping the planning process. Eric Penney of Nagle Hartray Architects presented the process to date and the latest site and floor plans (see 15\_0812\_PPL Public Mtg.pptx). The floor was then opened for questions and comments.

- One person was focused on having a basement even with explanations of why it doesn't work well in a public building.
- The renter residing in a property the Library has contracted to acquire was unaware that there is a contract on the home he lives in. But he was satisfied with the knowledge that a referendum has to pass first and then it still could be 1+ years before he would have to move.
- The concept of the tiered seating was a sticking point—the public in attendance thought that would be the only seating option for the room. Explained that this was a small area at the back of the largest option for the room and that at times when it wasn't used for programs would be a terrific hang-out space for kids, families, waiting for a ride, etc.
- An outspoken supporter commented that we were doing a great job of getting the word out about the meetings and was puzzled at the lack of interest/turn-out. It was noted that it was the night before the first day of new school year. Eric Penny of Nagle Hartray Architects stated that August meetings tend to be low attendance in his experience.
- Several suggestions were made on ways we could get the word out, most notably to hand a bookmark with the dates/times of the next meetings, to each person checking out. It was noted that a bookmark with those dates is at every service desk and is in fact given to the majority of people at the Check-Out Desk. However, the approximately 50% of users who use self-check may not get them.
- Library Director Milavec asked if evenings were better than Saturday mornings for public meetings. The consensus was yes.

**Plainfield Public Library District  
Building & Expansion Planning  
Citizens Task Force Meeting  
August 13, 2015**

Attending were 9 members of the public. Trustees Carl Gilmore and Jason Puetz were also present.

The presentations began with Library Director Julie Milavec speaking on 21<sup>st</sup> century library services and how those ideas are shaping the planning process. Eric Penney of Nagle Hartray Architects presented the process to date and the latest site and floor plans (see 15\_0812\_PPL Public Mtg.pptx). The floor was then opened for questions and comments.

- Overall this group seemed to really like the design and layout much better than the preliminary floor plans shared via email blast with community contacts.
- There was a concern about the placement of the elevators being too far from the entrance. Eric Penney of Nagle Hartray Architects stated those might be able to be brought to the other side of the core.
- The Express lockers seemed to generate a lot of interest from this group; they really liked this idea.
- Having access to the meeting rooms after hours was also an interest. Eric Penney of Nagle Hartray Architects acknowledged that the current plans do not easily allow for that but other options like motion detectors might be used. Library Director Milavec pointed out that this is option is available in the current building and never used in her 15 year tenure.
- The re-working of the parking lot to make sure there is no cutting through from Route 59 was appreciated by this group. There were also concerns about turning left (north) onto Route 59—all were assured that the Illinois Department of Transportation would not allow it.
- Several fundraising suggestions were made: have people sponsor a tree or bench and (somewhat jokingly) have buttons that say “what can you get for \$15?” in regards to the \$15 extra per month threshold that so far has been most appealing to those polled.
- Another suggestion regarding art work and fundraising: A library in Colorado used tiles that kids and families could buy and then decorate. The tiles were then made into a mosaic at the entrance for all to see. Perhaps the bricks from the current building could be re-used in this way for a sidewalk/parking lot pavers, etc.