

A special meeting of the Trustees of the Public Library was held on Monday, February 1, 2016 at 7:30 p.m. at the Main Library. Those present were:

	Healy	Lohe	Moran
Burstein	Jones	Margolis	Rees
Goldman	Livingston	Mehta	Vanderkay

Also present: D. Goldstein, member of the public; L. Carlisle, Brookline Library Foundation; A. Hyatt, Schwartz-Silver Architects; S. Slymon, Library Director; A. Reed, Assistant Director; and H. Sway, Assistant Director of Technology.

I. Presentation L. Carlisle

L. Carlisle presented an overview of the CIP process and possible timeline for the Coolidge Corner branch work. The 2017 10-year plan will be voted on in May 2016, and it is already completed. The Library will have to work with the BOS, Advisory Committee and Town Administrator to get any funds included in the May 2017 edition of the CIP. She noted that there is \$1.75 million available already that had been budgeted for Coolidge Corner improvements.

To accomplish the May 2017 goal, S. Slymon could send the feasibility study to the BOS, and she and L. Carlisle could meet with M. Kleckner. M. Burstein added that, during the next year, all involved should keep talking to all the right people to get the funding into the CIP.

The question was asked, should the Trustees place a resolution about the Coolidge work on this year's Town Meeting Warrant? If the Trustees want to go on record supporting it, there would have to be a public hearing.

II. Discussion of Options for the Coolidge Corner Branch Library

Those present then discussed the various options that have been put forward for improving the Coolidge Corner Branch Library, as shown on plans displayed at the meeting by A. Hyatt.

Plan A – Renovate Current Location

This plan would renovate the existing building and excavate a crawl space for more room. However, this option does not provide enough space for the full Program. M. Moran asked about meeting room space: it would be increased. There would be one room as large as Hunneman Hall and several small rooms, as well as individual study spaces.

Plan B – Remove/Replace Most Recent Addition

This plan would take off the addition in the back and replace it with a larger addition. The absence of an atrium, which is only retained in Plan A, would give more flexibility. The children's space would be on the lower level, close to the multipurpose room. The number of parking spaces would double, and there would be access to a lower lobby via elevator. A roof garden/deck is possible. J. Vanderkay observed that the original building is a Shepley Bullfinch design that she believes is worthy of preservation.

Plan C – New Construction on Existing Site

In this plan, the present building would be demolished and a completely new one would be built at the same location. The space available would be more than what is needed to fulfill the Program. It would likely be a little quicker to execute Plan C than A or B, possibly by three to four months. Plans A, B and C all close down the library, and services would have to be relocated. The amount of excavation would be the same in B and C. A variant plan, called C-1, diminishes the space by about 2000 square feet. C-1 would still permit a roof garden.

J. Margolis asked about staffing requirements. S. Slymon stated that eight to 10 people would be needed, vs. five now, due to the multi-level spaces.

Plan D – New Construction on Centre Street

Though it represents a clean slate and would not require shutting down the existing Coolidge Corner Library during construction, there are difficulties with using the Centre Street lot:

- Displacing public parking for two years
- Overcoming those who want to retain the status quo
- Overcoming those who want to have something else on that lot

It was noted that the Centre Street Committee, which was formed to look at uses for this site, is currently not meeting. As for possible replacement parking, it was noted that the garage under the Marriott on Webster Street has 60 spaces.

Plan D includes two decks of parking on top of a one-story library, for a total of about 200 parking spaces, vs. 138 there now. There could be a roof over the top level, with a garden or public market space. It was asked, where would the large trucks go to make their deliveries to the businesses that front on Harvard Street? That is up to the Town.

Underground parking might be possible – though it is not known what lies underneath the site – but it would be much more expensive to construct. The Town won't pay for the replacement parking construction, nor would an MBLC grant, except for spaces that are library-specific.

Estimated costs for the various options were provided by A. Hyatt:

- A: \$15,850,000
- B: \$22,360,000
- C: \$24,260,000
- C-1: \$23,590,000
- D: \$29,060,000

It would be premature for the Trustees to choose a favorite approach at this time, but it is fine to eliminate one or more. None of the Trustees expressed a preference for Plan A.

III. Adjourn

M There being no further business to come before the meeting, upon motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimous.

Voted: To adjourn at 9:05 p.m.
A true record.
ATTEST

Judith A. Vanderkay
Secretary
February 9, 2016