

GRAND ISLAND MEMORIAL LIBRARY

1715 BEDELL ROAD * GRAND ISLAND, NEW YORK 14072-1796 * 773-7124

READING GARDEN COMMITTEE MEETING

THURSDAY, APRIL 6TH @ 4:30 PM

LIBRARY MEETING ROOM

AGENDA

- I. Call to Order
- II. Topics of Discussion
 - a. Correspondence with Earne Family
 - b. Garden Components – possible vendors follow-up
 - c. Little Free Library
 - i. Grant information – follow-up
 - d. Funding sources
 - e. Next steps
- III. Next meeting date – TBD

Adjournment

**Please RSVP Bridgette Heintz, 773-7124 or heintzb@buffalolib.org if you can NOT make the meeting or if you have an agenda item to include.

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1 715 BEDELL ROAD*GRAND ISLAND, NEW YORK 14072-1796*773-7124

READING GARDEN COMMITTEE MEETING
Thursday, April 6, 2023 @ 5:00 PM
LIBRARY MEETING ROOM
Minutes

The meeting was called to order by Director Heintz at 5:04 PM.

Present were Director Bridgette Heintz, Trustees Jill Banaszak, Russ Person and Pat Rizzuto, Sherry Miller representing the Grand Island Rotary Club, Peg Koppman representing the Cinderella Isle Garden Club

Items Discussed:

- Jill's seating/planter report was discussed.
- Agnes's seating report was discussed.
 - Polywood was suggested as a viable material option. It's available through Home Depot in many colors.
- Playground surface discussion:
 - Bridgette reported that she reached out to numerous playground surface companies; the feedback received is that most will not take work that is less than 1000 sq feet.
 - Bull's Concrete is the vendor being used for the latest construction grant project (have current contract with the Town)
 - Ask for a quote for garden surface with 2 walkways to get a starting price.
 - It was discussed that, even with a playground surface, most likely we would need to dig down to remove the grass and set up a foundation.
 - Sherry brought up using Uniblock (blocks of surfacing rather than one large sheet)
 - Pros: if there is damage to one section, that section can be replaced easier

- Cons: Weeds can grow between blocks. Round-Up isn't compatible with children's programming.
 - An 18' circle was staked out in the area being considered so that the committee could see what it would look like. Upon inspection, it was deemed way too small.
- Peggy submitted a sketch of the landscaping and the space which expands on the current vision by extending the existing gardens and seating area. It is a good compliment to the existing CAD drawing. She suggested hiring a landscape architect to fine tune the actual plan.
 - An arbor was suggested to buffer the area from the reserved parking area. It would have to comply with ADA entrance requirements.
- Fundraising discussion:
 - We currently have \$650 from Dick Earne memorial donations and random donations over the desk to use for this project.
 - Walmart has a grant program that can be explored.
 - Other options, including combining a fundraiser with a large library event, (Easter, summer kick-off, and Halloween are the big three for the year), approaching the Maguire auto group and a golf outing were all discussed.
- Overall takeaways:
 - The project is still in its infancy and should not be rushed so that it is finished this year. A multi-phase approach should be taken. The following steps were suggested:
 - Complete the existing concrete project in 2023 so a walkway from the north entrance can be planned/plotted out.
 - Move forward with the grant for the Little Free Library, which can be installed as part of Phase 1 and repositioned, as needed, when the other phases are completed.
 - Move forward with getting a trellis bench. Peggy and Jill were asked to do comparison shopping and come back with pricing. A suggestion was made to approach the Friends to fund this.
 - For any future fundraising, the final project and phases should be shared with the public, so people will understand why we are raising money.

- Next meeting, scheduled for Thursday, May 11th @ 5:30 pm:
 - Create a phase 1 layout with a set focal point, perhaps a trellis bench, and follow up with comparison prices.
 - Little Free Library grant follow-up (awards may have been announced by then)
 - Based on pricing found, a decision was made to approach the Friends about funds to supplement phase 1.