

Great Barrington Libraries Board of Trustees  
March 31, 2016  
9:00 AM  
Mason Library  
231 Main Street  
Great Barrington, MA 01230

Ramsdell Promotion Subcommittee meeting

I. Call to Order: Meeting called to order at 9:00 am.

A. Attendance: Kathy Plungis, Amanda DeGeorgis, Director, Talya Leodari, Asst. Director  
Patrick Hollenbeck, Lauren Clark, Michelle Loubert Audience: 1

II. Ramsdell Promotion Report Review: The sections of the Ramsdell report were gone over. TL stated she would like the subcommittee to set a clear idea at the end of each meeting as to what will occur next. She would like a strategic plan/vision for Ramsdell, a written plan that states what we want to happen and how it will happen.

ML stated that Gt. Barrington has a Master Plan and that the library needs a strategic plan, that to make Ramsdell accessible is a high cost (noted in past studies) and that major funds will be needed. That the library mission, mandates need to align with the Town's Master Plan.

Stated that typically this is a 2 year process regarding funding and obtaining construction grants. TL stated that that the town owns the building and proper protocol needs to be followed.

Discussion continued with suggestions of hiring a consultant to create a strategic plan, need to cultivate an endowment, major donors. Acknowledgement of various areas of the building that need to be brought up to code. The need to work with the Historical Society regarding archival materials. PH had researched various consultants that have worked on libraries similar to ours in New England. Suggested that the committee also research the same. Discussed where the funds to hire a consultant would come from (new fiscal year begins July 1<sup>st</sup>).

Director and Asst. Director shared their thoughts regarding the building. That they believe Ramsdell has potential to be a focal point in the community of Housatonic. In keeping with the evolution of the Public Library in the 21<sup>st</sup> century and beyond, they are supportive of the Subcommittee's suggestion to find and design a realistic strategic plan.

Wrap Up:

1. Look at other libraries' strategic plans.
2. Research consultants that have worked with libraries similar to ours.
3. KP to reach out to our Town Planner and Town Manager (re Master Plan and monies)
4. TL will send the subcommittee a link to the consultants listed on the Mass. Library website.

III. Citizen Speak: A Housatonic resident in attendance offered to assist this committee.

IV. Adjournment: LC made a Motion to adjourn at 9:48 am PH seconded. Vote: 6 - 0

Respectfully submitted, Kathleen Plungis Chairman

