

PROPOSED MINUTES OF THE BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP PUBLIC LIBRARY BUILDING AND GROUNDS COMMITTEE

The meeting of the Bloomfield Township Public Library Board of Trustees Building and Grounds Committee was held at 11:00am on Thursday, October 7, 2021.

Trustees Present: Trustees: Sandy Edwards, Dani Gillman, Judy Lindstrom, Joan Luksik

Administration: Tera Moon, Library Director; Katherine Bryant, Assistant Library Director; Joel Dion, Facility Services Department Head

Guests: Steve Turner, American Lawn and Tree Arborists

Lower Level Water Investigation

Tera and Joel discussed the scope of the Lower Level flooding problem. The problem has been occurring since 1968 and has only become worse as heavy, fast rains are increasing in frequency. Discussion with Rewold & Sons indicated that the current detention basin and piping are too small to adequately handle the water flow. Tera recommends working with Chris Schlaps of Rewold and engineer Tom Sovel of Spalding DeDecker to explore potential solutions.

Dani talked about how the library was built on wetlands, which cannot be changed. The heavy rains may be a new weather trend consistent with climate change. She also pointed out that many Township residents are experiencing similar problems and are working with the Township on keeping water out of homes.

Judy recommended talking to the Oakland County Road Commission and the Township Department of Engineering and Environmental Services to see if other nearby buildings are having the same flooding issues.

Joan and Judy talked about working on this project while also redoing the parking lot. Everyone discussed the possibility of adding gutters to the building. Joel and Tera explained that the problem is mostly water coming up from the detention basin; it doesn't seep in through exterior walls, so gutters would not resolve the issue.

Judy asked how this impacts the Friends Book Nook. Joel explained that the shelves have a 4" rise from the floor, so no books have been lost to flooding. However, the Library underwent mold abatement, including removing the wooden end panels. Tera stated that the maintenance workroom has lost some wood furniture, and everything must be kept raised on pallets.

Tera and Joel will engage Rewold and Spalding DeDecker.

Library Campus Tree Health with Steve Turner, American Lawn and Tree Arborists

Steve added to the discussion of the water issues by recommending adding a rain garden or bioswale to the Library campus.

Steve discussed findings from his general overview of the trees on the Library campus. He advised that the Bradford pear trees have trellis rust which threatens their health. Steve will work with the Library to develop a plan for how to address these ailments.

Steve also discussed root girdling, which afflicts some trees on the library campus. Root girdling happens when roots are restricted. Steve will propose a systemic review all trees on the library campus. He would also

like to host a public program in conjunction with the work, to educate the community on the proper planting and care of trees. Trustees are in favor of this idea.

Next meeting: not scheduled at this time