

Keene Public Library

Building and Grounds Committee

Meeting held March 18, 2022 at 1:00 PM (DRAFT)

Members present: Paul Henkel, Carl Jacobs, Susan Bloom, and Kathleen Packard via Zoom

New Business -

Should alcohol consumption be allowed in the Gallup-Menard Courtyard consistent with existing policy for Heberton Hall? See existing policy. Discussion centered on potential additional limitations which might be considered by the Library Board:

No glass containers

Limited to the Gallup-Menard Courtyard and with clear signage supporting the limit

Only when the Library is closed for the public

The B&G Committee looked at examples of **possible outdoor furniture**. Generally members of the committee favored furniture which allows for wheel chair accessibility, is structurally stable and which sheds water so it dries quickly. Furniture under consideration will be reviewed with Andrew Bohannon's Facilities group prior to making a purchasing decision; they will need to deal with the furniture as they maintain the building and the lawn.

Susan Bloom noted that testing by Steve Armstrong and Nik Morton demonstrated that ferrite cores did not reduce the radio interference in Cohen Hall. We have an effective work around by using inexpensive fethead amplifiers. Since it would be best if we did not have the interference, Nik has invited a respected vendor to appraise the situation and potentially quote a price for improved wiring. Cross training of Library personnel is occurring to provide increased depth of capability in handling our AV equipment and assisting public users.

Susan noted that the Circulation desk area tends to be noisy. Susan feels that privacy is accommodated by library personnel moving to talk to patrons one on one, and by other policies such as written, rather than oral, means of learning or confirming addresses of patrons. But generally voices project and make the room noisy. Misgivings were voiced about how ordinary baffling might compromise the visual appeal of the room. Since it is not an area where a lot of patrons tend to spend time concentrating, an optimal reduction of noise may not be required. It was suggested that some kind of cloth such as curtains or quilts might help.

Old Business - The following items were not discussed. They are reported here so all members of the Committee are aware of recent actions of the Library Board of Trustees.

Landscaping – Trustees agreed to pay for up to \$5220 of the cost for tree trimming and maintenance (NOT including replacement of the crabapple tree), all as recommended by Buildings and Grounds. Andrew Bohannon has been advised.

Additional Microphones

2x Additional cabled microphones Shure SM58 @ \$99/each

3x Shure SLX24/SM58 Wireless Handheld Microphone System @ \$599/each

\$1995 Total. The Library Trustees voted to purchase these microphones as recommended by Buildings and Grounds. Susan Bloom will complete the purchase process.

Next meeting date: Friday April 8 at 1 PM

Paul Henkel, Chair

March 19, 2022