

LANGDON LIBRARY, NEWINGTON, NH

NOTES – Public Focus Group Meeting

Date: 4/21/12 **Time:** 12:30 PM – 2:55 PM @ the Library

Attendees: Tom Ladd (consultant), Gup Knox (trustee), Melissa Prefontaine (trustee), Scott Campbell (Librarian), Vivian Pelletier, Chris Cross, Peggy Lamson (arrived at 1:30 PM)

Notes taken by: Melissa Prefontaine

Item	Details/Discussion
Introduction	Melissa provided informational background related to Library and events that have occurred in the last year. Displayed building plan from 1969 developed by Marjorie Pickering. Reviewed survey results from the fall that indicated nearly 80% of respondents noted they would like to see some type of addition added to the Library.
Presentation	Tom reviewed slides that demonstrate a list of activities/services currently available at library, continuous improvements and building maintenance, pictures demonstrating building issues/findings that need to be addressed, library usage statistics, the Library mission statement, and space shortage/needs. Discussed Dahlgren space standards for the library and how the library is at least 1000 square feet too small for current usage. Projected space needs for 20 years would yield approx. 6500 square feet.
Desired Additional Services	Tom discussed what types of services and space needs could be met with additional space, including: more work stations, quiet study space, meeting space for up to 25 people, increase in the number of collection items, flexible space, children's space, proper restrooms, mechanical space (for HVAC, etc.).
Variables	Tom discussed variables that would affect the projected total square footage: strong community desire to retain historical building (as that may affect what type of additional space can be added), demand for increase in programming/series offered, question of using the basement for mechanical space, application of flexible use space, inefficiencies from previous addition versus new construction, is there a desire to preserve archival/museum artifacts, and amount of storage space.
Group Discussion of "What's Right With the Library"	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Friendly staff• Friendly place to "make the leap" (can learn about/borrow new technologies such as e-readers)
Group Discussion of "What's Wrong"	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Need for flexible space• Need for laptop/wi-fi work space

With the Library” and Things That Could be Improved	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Space for private tutoring • Multi-use/function space for enrichment of the population • Adult education center • Can the Stone School be used for archives? • Can the New School be used for additional programming space?
Other Points of Interest	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can a bus stop be added to drop off kids at the Library (unattended children would need to be addressed)? • What was the original vision of Woodbury Langdon in terms of the Library and the Trust Fund? Would need to use those monies accordingly. • Need to promote a strong, central community hold • Need to enrich the children and the community’s future- it is no longer a book warehouse, but an intellectual service center • Can wood from the Town Forrest (that is in storage) be used to create shelving? • Will an addition be up to code for earthquake standards? • How can we attract more qualified volunteers to work in the library?
Future Meetings	A Long Range Planning Advisory Board meeting is scheduled in May @ the Library. Date/time to be posted at the Library.