

The Monticello-Union Township Public Library Board of Trustees will meet Thursday, October 12, at 4 pm in the program room. The library will be closed for normal operations but will open the program room exit door for the public attending the special session meeting.

October 2023 Board of Trustees Agenda

Special meeting - Call to Order
Approval of Agenda

President Action
President Action

New Business
Building Plans

Discussion Action

President's Comments
Comments from Staff/Public
Adjournment

MUTPL Special Session Minutes 10/12/23

The MUTPL Board of Trustees met in special session on Thursday, October 12, 2023, at 4:00 p.m. in the library program room. Attending were Director Candace Wells, Treasurer/Bookkeeper Sharon Bail, Circulation Services Manager Scott Miller, Youth Services Manager Tammy Criminger, and trustees Tom Fletcher, Don Osten, Jo Piatt, and Emily Thacker. Trustees Tom Herman, Jamie McKean, and Teresa Puterbaugh were absent. Attending virtually on screen were Terry Lancer and Haneen Khader of Lancer Associates Architecture.

President Don Osten called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m., accepting the agenda as presented with no objections. The purpose of this session was to further discuss the proposed building plans.

Director Candace Wells opened with a general background review, including problems and concerns that have created an almost “perfect storm” of questions as we try to decide what to do. She listed management’s top priorities for this project (as requested by the board) to be the following:

1. Replace roof to stop all leaks
2. Overhaul HVAC system to increase energy efficiency and reliable comfort
3. Increase space – for reading, programs, meetings, storage, admin. work areas, etc. Note: This need showed up consistently in our strategic planning meetings with community members.
4. Upgrade lighting everywhere to LED (immediate savings benefit)
5. Repair or replace ceilings – to remove stains and crumbling (dust)
6. Increase number of electrical outlets to accommodate growing number of computers, etc.
7. Improve wall treatments, flooring, etc., to better fit uses. Note: The library functions as “more than just books on a shelf” and our building must provide for all of these needs.

Trustees then referenced three handouts of possible building layouts (labeled Expansion, Middle, and Minimal) as Haneen went through each and answered questions. Terry then briefly covered the cost list handouts for each. He reminded trustees to “keep in mind that these designs are very conceptual,” just a starting point. Plans can and will change as the project is underway (i.e. exit/entrance placement to meet codes). Tom Fletcher inquired about an overall timeline. Terry’s estimate was, if starting now, 90-120 days to get through the financial process, then 5-6 months. Probably it would be 12-14 months total – or up to 24 months from today until total completion.

Candace thanked Terry and Haneen, and discussion resumed after they left the meeting. Generally, the board and management focused on the need for more space –flexible space included. Tammy pointed out that this would allow ADA compliance, an expanded kids’ area, room for people and their movement, and room for “stuff” (storage). Everyone also wants to hold costs as much as possible. Financing is one of our biggest questions.

Tom Fletcher encouraged Candace to ask our architects for plans that address both of these concerns (more space but less money). She will also talk to Baker Tilly about our best financing options. New information will be presented to the board ASAP. Hearing no objections, Don then adjourned the special session at approximately 5:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Emily Thacker, Secretary