

**DIGHTON PUBLIC LIBRARY  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
MINUTES  
July 30, 2020  
9:00 AM  
OLD TOWN HALL**

*Due to the increasing concern surrounding the Coronavirus pandemic, this meeting was open to the public through the Zoom Conferencing platform.*

Call to Order – 9:08 am

Board of Selectmen: Dr. Brett Zografos, Nancy Goulart, Kenneth Pacheco

Library Board of Trustees: Ron O’Connor, EveMarie Cabral, Alison Cembalistry

Library Director Jocelyn Tavares, Fire Chief Christopher Maguy, Building Inspector James Aguiar, ADA

Coordinator Jonathan Gale, Town Administrator Mallory Aronstein, Council on Aging Board

Member/Highway Superintendent Tom Ferry

Pledge of Allegiance

Joint Meeting with Board of Selectmen to discuss:

1. Jocelyn explained what we know about the certification requirements from the Mass Board of Library Commissioners (MBLC) so far. Many libraries still remained closed to the public and were only offering curbside services. While covid was still a threat, the MBLC would be looking at the requirements and certification levels. What they do not want to see is the public library in a municipality taking a hit because it needed to be closed – at the expense of other town departments. In the case of Dighton’s situation, the covid scenario would give the town time to find a more permanent solution to the building problem. As we come out of the pandemic, the MBLC would want to see more than a patchwork library facility where we are providing curbside service in one facility and in-person services in another. They would want to see a more sustainable library model.
2. Discussion/planning for bridging library services through 2020:  
Selectman Goulart asked what was the least the town had to do to get the library building open safely? At a minimum, egress from the building would need to be doubled on both floors of the building. That cost was estimated at \$150,000 per the Building Inspector. The work would invoke ADA corrections. The prior ADA audit cited \$75,000 of work, which both the Town Administrator and the Building Inspector believed to be low.

The Prime Time location was brought up again as a possible solution. The Highway Superintendent was called in to be party to the discussion as he is the Chair of the Council on Aging Board.

The ADA Coordinator suggested leasing trailers as a possible solution. There was general reluctance of this plan because of the possibility that this would end up being a more permanent solution. The Prime Time building was once trailers.

The Town Administrator discussed the need for creating a Buildings Study Committee to look at facility needs across the town and to be able to plan for all these needs, including facilities expenses. This item will be placed on the Board of Selectmen’s August 12 agenda.

The Town Administrator also discussed the desire to explore the possibility of having the Historical Commission have the library building placed on the Historical Register. There was

concerns about restrictions the register would have versus the requirements the building has to make it safe enough to open and the costs that would incur. The Board of Selectmen unanimously voted to have the Town Administrator and the Historical Commission explore this.

The Highway Superintendent proposed leasing property as a suggestion for a interim library space.

The Building Inspector was instructed to get cost estimates of second egress and restroom updates for the first floor.

All were invited back for an update on this progress at the Board of Selectmen meeting on Wednesday, August 26<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm. Participation can be in person at Old Town Hall or via Zoom.

Selectman Goulart moved to adjourn the meeting. Selectman Pacheco seconded. Approved. Meeting adjourned at 9:50.

Public Input  
Adjournment