

Williamston Community Library Foundation

Board of Trustees: Ed Noonan • John Brazier • Ernie St Pierre • Fran Schaffert • Brian O'Connell • Jeff Bartrem • Susan Graff
175 East Grand River Avenue, Williamston MI 48895 • www.wclf.info

ANNUAL REPORT January 11, 2006

The following Trustees were appointed by their respective community governing bodies for two year terms starting in January, 2005 and ending with the Annual Meeting in January of 2007: Ed Noonan - Township of Williamstown; John Brazier - Wheatfield Township; Larry Wittrup - City of Williamston. Subsequently, in June, Trustee Wittrup resigned and on the recommendation of the City Council, Penny Davis was appointed as his replacement, then in September, Penny Davis resigned and City Councilmember Brian O'Connell was appointed to replace her. His term expires in 2007.

Pursuant to Article IV, Sec. 2 of the Bylaws, at the January, 2005 Annual Meeting, the following Foundation officers were elected for 2005: President - Ed Noonan; Vice President - Dan Slider; Secretary - Susan Graff; Treasurer - JoAnn Hegedus.

As 2005 began, the Foundation obtained a Phase I Environmental Site Assessment (no problems found), a Property Appraisal (\$290,000) and a Topographical Survey of the property at 226 & 304 West Grand River in preparation for the purchase of that property. Invoices for those services were submitted to the City of Williamston for payment. On February 1, the Foundation resolved to purchase that property for \$290,000 and on February 15, the Foundation entered into a Land Contract with Frank and Norma Kolasa.



The Friends of the Williamston Library generously funded the down payment, the first year's interest payments and the taxes on the property. In April, the Foundation's By-Laws were amended to put a representative of the Friends of the Williamston Library on the Board of Trustees instead of the Head Librarian.

On April 27, community residents were invited to tour the Foundation's property. The Foundation hired David Milling and Associates, Ann Arbor library architects, to develop a site plan and conceptual drawings of a Library building at the Foundation's site. The Board of Trustees approved the execution of that contract and sought payment from the Library Trust Fund Account held by the City of Williamston. In June, the City released all the Trust Funds to the Foundation.

The architects also prepared a preliminary budget of \$5.7 Million for a 15,000 sq. ft. library which would adequately serve the community for the next 20 years. The budget numbers were based on actual costs of more than a dozen recent library construction projects in Michigan and Ohio and the Foundation Trustees worked closely with the architects to ensure that the budget was adequate for a building of good quality, without extravagance. Due to the current state of the local economy, the Board of Trustees settled on a smaller building. The conceptual drawings prepared by the architects (above and below) reflect a 10,000 sq. ft. building, adequate on-site parking and potentials for expansion.

Annual Report - Williamston Community Library Foundation - January 11, 2006

Having acquired a building site for the new Williamston Community Library building, the Foundation turned to the matter of raising funds to pay the land contract and for construction of the Library building. In May, Mr. Larry Bartrem, a professional fund-raiser, held a fund-raising seminar for the Foundation Trustees and interested citizens. Subsequently, a Fund Raising Committee was formed and Marlene Epley was appointed as Chair of that Committee by the Board of Trustees. The Fundraising Committee has been meeting regularly and undertaking to inform the public about the needs of a new Library.

To further raise funds, the Foundation performed repairs on the duplex building at 302 and 304 West Grand River and rented out the two apartments there.

Further information about the Foundation, including answers to frequently asked questions, can be found on the World Wide Web at wclf.info.

Respectfully submitted,

Ed Noonan
President



Williamston Branch Library

September 28, 2005

Option 1