

**Brandon Select Board Hearing
Proposed Planning Grant Application
For Brandon Free Public Library
May 25, 2020**

Board Members Present: Seth Hopkins, Brian Coolidge, Tim Guiles

Others Present: Dave Atherton, Isaac Wagner, Bill Moore, Bernie Carr, Molly Kennedy, Phoebe Chestna

1. Call to order

Seth Hopkins, Chair, opened the hearing at 6:30PM.

2. Public Comments

Seth Hopkins stated the hearing relates to consideration for the Town to apply for a planning grant up to \$40,000 on behalf of the Brandon Free Public Library for a feasibility study for accessibility modifications to the Brandon Library. Mr. Hopkins reported there were no written submissions received for the hearing.

Molly Kennedy stated the proposed project is an accessibility project to add an accessible bathroom, improve accessibility to the second and third floors, and do a redesign of some of the spaces for the children's collections. The grant will enable the library to move forward with some of the planning. Isaac Wagner, consultant for the Brandon Library, advised the library has some concepts on how to pursue it. For State and Federal funding, the list of due diligence regulations has grown. This grant will take care of the planning requirements such as archeological, historical, and environmental requirements that would erode the library's funding. The Community Development Block grants all have the same requirements regardless of the amount that includes a public hearing at the beginning of the project and one at the end of the project.

Seth Hopkins stated the Select Board supports the library's project and this hearing is being held for community members who may have questions or comments about the project.

Phoebe Chestna, President of the Board of Trustees for the Brandon Library, is in support of the project.

Isaac Wagner advised there is a requirement of the grant to submit the hearing minutes and attendance list from the meeting.

Seth Hopkins wished the Brandon Library best success with their application to the State of Vermont and noted if there is more information required, they can be in contact with the Town Manager.

The hearing closed at 6:36PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Charlene Bryant
Recording Secretary