CFL Renovation WG

Date: 16Oct2025	recorder/facilitator: Mayla
In attendance	Leslie, Kate, Laura, Jesse, Barry, Beth, Adam, Justin, Margaret
Absent	Susan, Marianne

Executive summary

Discussed applying for grants to fund library renovations. The amount raised from grants will likely be less than that from a bond or major gifts, but could be used to pay for infrastructure construction items that are less attractive to donors, such as roof replacement. Communication with local elected officials is key to obtaining state grants. Preparing supportive information ahead of time would make application preparation easier.

Action items

task	owner	due date	status
Prepare a narrative of the renovation project, broken down into components	team		assigned

Meeting minutes

Link to slides

A subteam of the board met with Jill Davis, director of the Hendrick Hudson library. She has experience applying for grants and answered a prepared list of questions by email. These topics were discussed at a meeting, and findings are now presented to the WG.

Proportion of funds for renovation

- Grants will likely be a relatively small portion of the funds raised; the amounts we can reasonably expect to raise from these sources would be between \$100-500K.
- Bulk of the capital campaign should focus on a bond and on major gifts
- Figures presented are only approximations
- Three main sources for grants are from NY state
- Two of these, State & Municipal Facilities (SAM) and CREST are initiated by our state senator and state legislator
- Continued dialogue with Dana Levenberg and Pete Harckham are important so they will inform us of when relevant funding sources can be applied for
- Village authorities should also be updated and we can ask for inclusion to any relevant grant applications
- Project narrative, in sections (e.g. teen room, infrastructure improvements) would be helpful

- Smaller projects (~\$50k) may be more likely to be funded but we should try for larger grants as well
- Preparing tax info, library information etc would be useful for ease of preparing grant applications
- A business manager helps Jill with all applications, reporting and reimbursement steps, bank statements, cancelled checks, invoices etc.
- As in previous years, Jesse will submit the budget amount for the May 2026 vote, in January 2026. This means we need information about the bond and the tax cap override by January
- Adam will be communicating imminently with the Westchester County local development corp (LDC) to discuss the bond; this is on track
- Developed a timeline indicating the January 2026 budget information and May vote
- The timeline should include more details as they become known. We should include a strategy, with milestones, for public outreach about a bond vote and why the public's support is needed; Changing our World and Melanie's committee will be key to this activity