

Jon Maginot

From: Mary Jo Kelly
Sent: Tuesday, June 25, 2019 10:37 AM
To: City Council; Chris Jordan; Jon Maginot
Subject: Friends of the Library

Thank you for the opportunity to appear before you again tonight.

I would like to reiterate that the Friends community believes that the best way in which it can maximize revenue for the Library, foster a significant volunteer community and provide community activities is to be located permanently on the civic center campus as described in our April 19, 2019 submission to City Council.

However, we would now like to move forward with a new approach with the following two requests.

First, we believe it would benefit everyone if a small group of interested parties meet and discuss the issues related to the Friends space in a manner that would benefit the City, the Friends, the community and the Library.

To that end we suggest that an ad hoc committee be formed, consisting of two members each from City Council, City staff and Friends. The committee would be tasked to find a short-term location for the Friends that would serve both our operational and storage needs by the July 9, 2019 City Council meeting. The committee would also be tasked with finding a long-term location for the Friends by the end of the calendar year. The committee would report back with definitive plans at Council meetings by July 9 and December 31, respectively.

The Friends representatives on the ad hoc committee will seek endorsement from its Board prior to any presentation to City Council.

In addition, the Friends must have two sheds in place prior to having to move out of Hillview at the beginning of August. The sheds would provide storage of our sorted books, pallets, crates, boxes, supplies and equipment. If necessary, we will use a small space in the Library for a limited operation until we can move into a short-term location. Due to the lead-time for ordering and installation, we would like to gain approval tonight for the installation of these sheds in the location specified by staff in their report dated June 25, 2019 (Option 2).

We respectfully ask for your approval tonight on these two requests.

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

Jon Maginot

From: betsy y
Sent: Monday, June 24, 2019 1:35 AM
To: council@losatosca.gov
Cc: Jon Maginot
Subject: On-site space for Friends of the Library

Hi Los Altos City Council and City Manager,

I'm writing to strongly request that you support a no-cost lease agreement with the Friends of the Library for the placement of adequate work space on the Civic Center campus until such time as a new library is built with enough space allocated to the Friends to enable them to continue the great work they do for the library and, by extension, the community.

As a long time resident of Los Altos (25+ years), one of the things I have appreciated the most is the wonderful resources the library provides, many of which are funded by the Friends. Our children attended many of the children's programs growing up and now that I'm an empty nester, I'm enjoying the bestseller collection enormously.

I attended the City Council meeting on May 14 and frankly was surprised to learn that providing the Friends with on campus space was even a question. The suggestion that they could continue to do what they do from an off-site facility, even if one could be found at no cost, just seems logistically impossible given the volume of books the Friends have to process. And I'm taken aback that the Friends are even having to lobby for space: the value they provide to the library and community is pretty tangible and would be sorely missed if they were not able to continue.

I'm hoping that since the last meeting some good work has been done to provide adequate free space on the Civic Center campus to the Friends. Thank you!

Betsy Youngdahl

Jon Maginot

From: Administration
Sent: Tuesday, June 25, 2019 8:00 AM
To: Jon Maginot
Subject: FW: Agenda item #12, June 25

-----Original Message-----

From:
Sent: Monday, June 24, 2019 5:57 PM
To: City Council <council@losaltosca.gov>; Administration <administration@losaltosca.gov>
Subject: Agenda item #12, June 25

To: Los Altos City Council
Re: Agenda Item 12: Report, Council meeting June 25, 2019
From: John Gerich, Los Altos resident
Date: June 24, 2019

As a resident of Los Altos and an active volunteer, I would like to address some of the statements in the report prepared by the city regarding the request from the Friends of the Library (Item 12: Report).

As someone who has been involved in discussions with the leaders of the Friends of the Library (FOL) and city staff, there are a number of inaccuracies in the report. For example:

In the discussion analysis, the report states

1) "Since the beginning of the planning for the new community center in 2017, staff has urged the FoL to find a location that is not on the civic center campus."

This is incorrect. In early discussions starting 2 years ago, City staff told the FOL to keep a low profile and the city would take care of them. It was only in the last several months that we were told we would have no place on the City Center campus.

2) "...more uses can exacerbate an already challenging parking situation...'

The FOL has been operating and parking at the City Center site for many decades as have other groups which are impacted by the construction. To continue to permit the FOL to have a temporary building on the campus does not add extra demands on the parking situation beyond what already exists.

3) "...we are concerned about the aesthetics of placing such temporary buildings on this site."

The FOL have offered to work with the city to 'dress up' any temporary building, including hiring an architect/landscaper to help do so.

4) "...any temporary structures cannot interfere with the orderly operations of the City, nor can they block or restrict access to facilities or to underground utilities."

Including a temporary building on the site recommended by the city between the police station and the History Museum would not interfere with City operations. And, per the City's study, our desired placement of a temporary building would not restrict access to facilities or underground utilities.

Some other concerns have been raised in city meetings about two apricot trees on the site requested by the FOL and recommended by the city. The two apricot trees could be relocated to allow space for the desired temporary building as well as the two smaller sheds. The FOL have offered in many meetings with the city to replace or move the trees to a location the city would designate. These two trees are also outside the confines of the historic apricot orchard. In the registry of the State of California, Resources Agency, Department of Parks and Recreation, Building, Structure, and Object Record:

"On September 8, 1991 the City Council unanimously passed and adopted a resolution adding the Civic Center's apricot orchard along San Antonio Road to the West, the Library to the South, The Youth Center to the East the Civic Center parking lot to the North as a Historical Landmark."

This document clearly delineates the boundaries of the historic apricot orchard and the trees in question are not within those boundaries.

In the Agenda Item 12: Report, Section Term of Occupancy, it states:

"...with the opening of the new community center, staff believes that the civic center campus should be viewed as a welcoming site to our citizens and one that they can take pride in. Continuing to have small temporary facilities on the campus could diminish that belief in the community."

The FOL shares the sentiment that we hope the new civic center will be as welcoming as the current Los Altos Library.

The Los Altos Library experiences approximately 1,500 visits per day which equates to more than 500,000 visits per year. Los Altos residents love and use their library. With the more than \$160,000 the FOL has donated to the library each of the last two years, the library is able to serve the community well. The approval of a temporary building and two smaller sheds on the campus will enable the Los Alto Library to continue to contribute to a welcoming campus. I fail to see that a temporary building, appropriately outfitted and landscaped will 'diminish' the future Civic Center.

Jon Maginot

From: Rebecca Chopra
Sent: Friday, June 21, 2019 7:41 PM
To: Jon Maginot; City Council
Subject: Friends of the Library Request

Dear Deputy City Manager, Jon Maginot and City Council members,
I am writing in support of the Los Altos Friends of the Library request to approve a no-cost lease with the city for the placement of two storage sheds and a mobile work space on the Civic Center campus until the redevelopment of the existing library is completed.

I have attended many of the book sales over the years and can see the value of the work of the Friends in so many ways. Their work has created community for all ages - most importantly for those that are retired. In addition to all the raised money for the library, the work of the volunteers is providing amazing educational resources for some of the regional teachers at a very low cost. I have stood in line with teachers from the lower income neighborhoods in on the peninsula who are able to take advantage of the sales to help their students.

I hope that you'll consider doing all you can to support this great community effort when we have so much money and at the same time so many social programs are being cut back.

Warmly,
Rebecca

Jon Maginot

From: cronin <
Sent: Friday, June 21, 2019 4:02 PM
To: Jon Maginot
Subject: Friends of the Library

I would like to ask the Los Altos City Council to take the opportunity to show they care for the community they serve. We are very fortunate to have a wonderful library which is better than many of the other libraries in the area. The Friends of the Library have contributed greatly to create this library. I would like to see the City Council support the Friends of the Library by allowing them to stay near the Community Center so they can continue to support the Library and to continue to provide the many services they have provided in the past. We should support them and show our gratitude by providing them with an appropriate place to work.

Sincerely,
Sonja Cronin

Los Altos, CA

Jon Maginot

From: C Choi ·
Sent: Monday, June 24, 2019 10:39 PM
To: Jon Maginot; City Council
Subject: Find temporary space for the Friends of the Library of Los Altos!

Dear Mr. Maginot and Los Altos City Council,

Our family have been residents of Los Altos for the past ten years. Having lived in multiple cities both within and outside of the Bay Area, we know every city/community has special attributes. Without question, the Friends of the Library of Los Altos is one of the things that makes Los Altos special not only to us but for many other members of the community. We take advantage whenever possible of the special weekend sales despite the long queues(!) and our children always browse the Friends' section of the library as we walk in or out knowing those are the "special" books one can buy to take home versus borrow from the other shelves.

We also know from the newsletters the additional income that those sales bring to the library, the shared sense of purpose and contribution it gives to the volunteers who so generously give their time and energy to the organization, and the overall value of "recycling" of books cannot be understated either. In our increasingly fast-paced, digital world, it is great to know that things like this exist and are supported by the community.

Therefore we implore you to find a way to work with the Friends of the Library of Los Altos and follow through on prior discussions to find a temporary, no-cost location on the Civic Center Campus, ideally in close proximity to the Library and LAYC, until the completion of the redevelopment of the existing library. Not only will a little extra effort go a long way towards preserving something of value to many different members of the community young and old, families and singles, etc., but it will also show our community and those around us that the Los Altos City Council and a local organization like Friends of the Library can get something done together. It would truly take away from our appreciation of our great little small town if this organization doesn't continue in some way.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
C. Choi on behalf of the Choi-Wong Family of Los Altos

Jon Maginot

From: Jon Maginot
Sent: Friday, June 21, 2019 4:17 PM
To: City Council
Subject: Correspondence for agenda item number 12
Attachments: Supporting Friends of the Library remaining on campus during construction of new Community Center ; Friends of the Los Altos Library; Friends of the Los Altos Library; Untitled; Fw: Space for Friends of the Library; Friends of the Library need for work space; Friends of the Library ; Friends of the Library space in Civic Center?; los altos library; Friends of the Library; Friends of the Library

Council,

We have received several emails regarding item number 12. They are attached to this email.

Jon Maginot
Deputy City Manager
City of Los Altos
650-947-2609
jmaginot@losaltosca.gov