Lake Bluff Public Library Campaign Planning Committee Meeting Minutes Monday, March 7, 2022, at 1 PM 123 E. Scranton Ave, Lake Bluff, IL, 60044

Notice: This meeting of the Lake Bluff Library Campaign Committee Planning was held without the participants physically present. All participants attended remotely via electronic means. This method is authorized by Executive Order of the Governor (COVID-19 Executive Order No. 5, March 16, 2020).

- 1. Call to Order and Roll Call: Library Director Eric Bailey called the meeting to order at 1 pm. Present were Director Eric Bailey, Development Coordinator Melissa Williams, Trustees Kathy Meierhoff, Jon Heintzelman, Janie Jerch, and Library Employee Jillian Chapman.
- 2. Minutes of Meetings: Ummmm... dropped the ball here.
- 3. Discussion of Campaign Plans: Bailey and Williams related the phone call they had with Claire Weiler, the owner of the former PNC Bank property across the street from the Library. They discovered that while the Weilers are not interested in donating the property to the Library, Museum, or Village, but that they do realize that development of the parcel is unlikely given the failed efforts of two different developers and a failed effort to convert the existing building into a restaurant.

The committee members had a robust discussion of possibilities by which some combination of the Library, Village, and Museum could acquire the property with the goal of moving the Museum to the PNC Bank Building, the Library taking the space in the Wood building currently occupied by the Museum, and the Village acquiring some much-needed parking as well as a perfect tenant for what is now essentially an abandoned building in the center of town. This would, of course, necessitate a reworking of the existing agreement amongst the Library, Museum, and Village concerning the History Museum.

This plan is a solution to our mutual space needs that would benefit the entire community as well as giving peace of mind to the property's North Avenue neighbors, who would no longer have to worry about what will happen to the property. In addition, we also felt that a capital campaign with the very visible goal of acquiring the PNC Bank property would give a much-needed impetus to our fund-raising efforts in the community. Realizing this goal would truly be a win-win-win for all of Lake Bluff!

- **3. Moving Forward:** We agreed to approach the Village with our ideas to see in what ways they might be willing to help us reach our goal as outlined above. We also agreed that we need to approach the History Museum and get them involved, and that we need to move forward with our pitch to the Friends of the Library to combine our fund-raising efforts. Heintzelman suggested renaming the combined group as the *Friends of the Library Foundation* to clarify both its origin and its new role, if the Friends agree to join forces with the Foundation.
- 4. Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 1:59 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Janie Jerch