

Donna Conkling

From: M Otten <otten@alumni.princeton.edu>
Sent: Wednesday, November 23, 2016 4:54 PM
To: Clerk's Department
Cc: Evelyne Otten
Subject: Library Renovation

Dear Mayor Mark and all Trustees,

Unfortunately, I do not expect to be able to attend the Nov. 29 meeting at Village Hall. I shall try to watch a rerun.

I do appreciate that the initial proposal has been scaled back, but frankly doubt that it has been brought down enough. One of the standards used to assess the reasonableness of the request was to compare with other library renovation projects. I would suggest that our village officials actually talk to those who authorized such projects in places like White Plains, where a lot seems to have been done at much lower overall cost. I have some links referring to their multi-phased projects that seem to add up to about \$ 4.1 million:

<http://www.thetrove.org/about/faqs.shtml>

<http://westchester.happeningmag.com/grand-opening-edge-white-plains-library>

<http://foundation.whiteplainslibrary.org/2016/10/support-the-hub/>

I won't presume to know to what extent there are apples-to-apples comparisons, but I use and like the Scarsdale library very much the way it currently is. I particularly dread the prospect of it becoming significantly

more popular, creating an inevitable parking problem. Renovations, yes. Technology, yes. Total re-imagining, no!

I do appreciate our public officials doing the homework necessary to figure out what is really needed and at what cost.

Regards,

Michael Otten
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