



Argyle Public Library Board of Trustees Building Committee

Off the Shelf

November 2021

A New Library for Argyle

For nearly twenty years there has been talk of a new space for the Argyle Public Library. Housed for many decades in the beautiful 1920's Argyle Community Building, its 900 square feet of floor space no longer meets the needs of a 21st century library.

Last winter an independent professional space assessment concluded that our community should have a library four to five times the current size. A larger Argyle library would mean better services, such as space for a children's story circle, aisles wide enough for wheelchairs and strollers, a quiet study room, some comfortable reading areas, a business center, and a multi-purpose space for meetings, lectures, voting, and other community events.

In June 2021 the Argyle Village Board and the Library Board approved the formation of a Building Committee to explore options for a new library space. The committee is now embarking on this project which could take several years to complete and will involve extensive planning as we look at financing, sites, and much more.

As we work on these things, one of our most important tasks is to keep people informed about our progress. Hence this newsletter!

Each month or so *Off the Shelf* will be available in a variety of ways. Find it on the library website or

in the *Pecatonica Valley Leader*. Those who prefer email can sign up by contacting the library at 608-543-3193 or emailing us at communicationscommittee53504@gmail.com.

In future issues of *Off the Shelf* we will highlight various members of the eighteen-member Building Committee.

Meanwhile, visit the library! Explore the local history section, the children's book area, the large print books, and the movies. Find an interesting magazine or newspaper. Sign up for a book club. Use the computer or bring a laptop and use the free wi-fi. Print, scan, or copy a document. Enjoy the cozy (bursting-at-the-seams!) space while imagining great things to come for the Argyle Public Library.



Our Subcommittees

The Building Committee has formed three groups that will focus on different aspects of the project. The **Communications Subcommittee's** goal is to ensure clear and effective communications with all those interested in learning about the Building Committee's work. Projects include reaching out to residents throughout the library's entire service area to keep everyone up to date on Committee activities, and this newsletter. The **Finance Subcommittee** is tasked with looking at the money side of the new library project.

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Committee members are considering a variety of models for funding libraries, with accountability and transparency being two important values going forward. The **Site Subcommittee** is seeking a new physical space for the Argyle Public Library. Some of the elements taken into consideration include accessibility, square footage, design, structural needs specific to libraries, and of course, the costs of purchasing, building or remodeling, and operation.



Thank You for Your Support

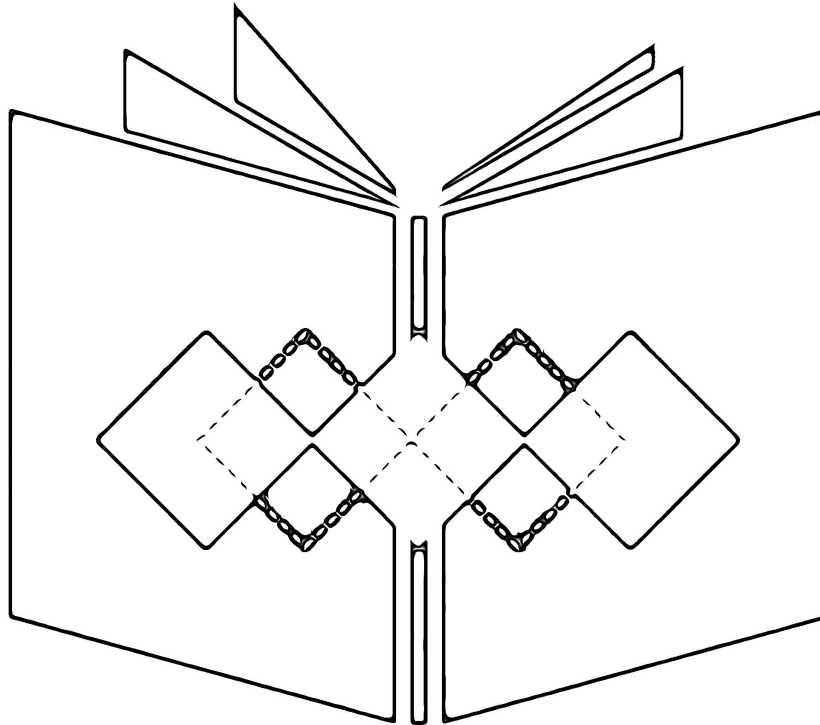
Town of Adams

Argyle Public Library Building Committee

Mission Statement

To move the Argyle Public Library into a fully accessible space that will better serve the needs of all patrons and that can also be used for community events such as meetings, lectures, and elections.

For Kids! A **logo** is a design that identifies an organization. The Argyle Public Library's logo is below. Color it any way you like and bring it to the library for a prize!



ARGYLE PUBLIC LIBRARY