Aurora Free Library



Preservation Committee Report -- April 18, 2024

Morgan Opera House Air Conditioning

Funding of **\$44,400** has been requested through the 2024 New York State Aid for Library Construction Program. The total project cost is estimated at \$59,200, and our 25% match would be \$14,800. The Dentes family and Triad have generously donated a combined \$15,000 as matching funds for the project.

However, on April 15, the State wrote to us to offer a 10% matching-fund portion for our requested project, which would reduce our match by \$8,800. We accepted the offer, and our application has been updated to reflect the amount of Public Library Construction Funds requested for this project as \$53,280, which is 90% of the total project cost. We notified John Dentes and the Triad Foundation about this reduced match requirement, and both replied that we may fully retain the donations and re-direct any extra funds into our general operating account. We anticipate approval of our NYSED grant request in mid to late 2024, with the AC installation completed prior to Summer 2025.

Regional Economic Development Council Grant Application: Windows Renovation

A \$10 million award through the *Downtown Revitalization Initiative* to the three Villages of Aurora, Union Springs, and Cayuga was announced February 5. We will partner with the Village of Aurora to develop the *AFL Windows Renovation Project* at a projected coast of \$375,000. AFL will need to provide at least a 25% match, for which we plan to apply through a grant application to the Emerson Foundation.

Miscellaneous Building Issues

- -- A contractor will wash the first-floor windows and power-wash the front and side steps at 8 AM on Saturday April 20, in preparation for the Mother's Day plant sale in early May.
- -- The repair of the front steps and stone balustrades will be addressed by Johnson Stoneworks this summer..
- -- Jeff Koehn of Yesteryears Restoration submitted estimates for renovations and repairs of (1) the outdoor display case, (2) the paneled bathroom walls, (3) the AFL/MOH sign, and (4) the base of the side door. Dave approved the work for the display case (\$322) and the bathroom walls (\$297). Pending satisfactory outcomes, we will ask him proceed with renovations to the side door (\$943) and the Library sign (\$455).