SECOND LRP MEETING RECAP –

November 19, 2015

The committee was asked to identify the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats as they relate to the community and the Library.

Strengths:

- Support for Library
- Educated Population (tech savvy)
- Strong family support
- Programs
- Proximity to New York City
- Ability to access Library via the internet

Weaknesses:

- Traffic, lack of parking, empty storefronts (related?)
- Lack of Community Events and programs (outside of library)
  - Need to make it more of a community
- No Chamber of Commerce
- No local government (e.g., no mayor) to address problems to.
- No $.99 store
- Resources stretched by underserved neighboring areas

Opportunities:

- Transit
- Outreach to new young families moving in as well as those ages 25-50
- Outreach to new populations moving in
- Potential for affordable housing for young families and young singles.
- Art classes and/or lectures for children
- Offer new types of programming – Fitness, programs aimed at between college and retirement
- Streaming Video – stream library programs to people at home
- Library could sponsor programs out in the community and not just in the building

Threats:

- Changing population profile of the area.
- Need a bigger physical space and parking lot
- Need a better Teen space
• Drugs/Alcohol – lack of resources
• Noise (inside the Library)
• Rising taxes
• Losing post-college students/young people

Ideas to Consider

• Offer baskets to carry books within the library
• Library could become more of a community center w/a focus on lending books
• Hire an outside engineer/architect to look at the library and make suggestions of how we could reallocate existing space
• Offer Saturday programs (discussed Pros and Cons, including plenty of parking vs alienating large portion of the community)

Director and Assistant Director will sort through the results and work on a Community Survey for further input.
Next meeting is tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, December 16th