

MEMORANDUM

TO: Richmond ARPA Funds Committee

FROM: Richmond Free Library Trustees

DATE: June 19, 2023

RE: Request for funding for Library building restoration

Our submission for a Bruhn Grant application was not approved, however, we continue to need funds to address the continued and serious deterioration of the building envelope. The language in our previous request stated that *“Should we not receive the grant, we would use the ARPA funds toward needed work and continue to phase the work while continuing to seek additional funding.”* However, in the Selectboard vote this was not the wording for the request. Hence we are resubmitting this request:

The Richmond Library Trustees would like to ask the ARPA committee to consider allocation of \$150,000 of Richmond’s ARPA funding toward the repair/restoration of the exterior of the Library building. The Library plays a vital role in our community and the building suffers from many years of deferred maintenance and the effects of weather on the exterior. The building envelope is now in danger of water damage to the foundation and incursions by animals. With the help of 2 small grants from Preservation Trust of Vermont, we were able to have reports from preservation specialists on the specific needs of the building. These reports were also confirmed by the Breadloaf Construction report done in 2018.

Through the Town Center & Library Building Committee, we issued an RFP for all of the needed work on the building and received a bid of \$429,600 for this work. Because of the size of this estimate, we plan to accomplish the work in several phases as we secure funding. The first phase was recently approved by the Selectboard and will be partially funded by a small grant from the Vermont Division of Historic Preservation.

We would use the \$150,000 toward:

- The rest of the woodwork repair (below the bed molding) -- \$36,500
- Surface preparation & painting -- \$93,000
- Contingency & owner’s fee -- \$20,500

If you have questions about this request, or need more information, please contact Laurie Dana, Chair, Richmond Free Library Trustees