

**PARK RIDGE
PUBLIC LIBRARY**



TO: Planning & Operations Committee
FROM: Janet Van De Carr
DATE: September 8, 2015
SUBJECT: Purchase of Meeting Room Chairs from Restricted Gift Fund

The stacking chairs that we use in the meeting room are over 35 years old. The green upholstery and padding was added sometime in the late 1990s to cover up the harvest gold plastic seats and backs that were both soiled and uncomfortable.

The chairs were never designed for upholstery and the constant stacking and everyday use has caused many of them to tear and fray. We used to have damaged ones repaired annually; the last time was in 2013 at a cost of \$110 per chair. We now have almost 50 chairs that need to be recovered and rather than continue to spend funds to repair 35-year-old chairs I would like to use gift funds to replace them.

KI, a supplier of library and institutional furniture, sells meeting room chairs that are attractive, comfortable, lightweight and can be stacked up to 40 high. The chairs have a mesh seat and a solid back and come with a 10 year warranty. The chairs are in use at several area libraries that report they are very satisfied with their performance and comfort.

Our current upholstered chairs can be stacked 20 high on 8 storage caddies. The proposed chairs require only 4 storage caddies which will save space in our storage area and at less than 8 pounds each they will be easier to set up and take down on a daily basis.

I asked Andrew Jose our architect to assist us in locating manufacturers of similar chairs when my search was unsuccessful. Mr. Jose confirmed that KI is the only provider of this type of high density stacking chair. All other high density stacking chairs on the market have plastic seats and backs similar to the ones that we currently own. Below are quotes for plastic high density stacking chairs (36-40) available from various sources.

High Density Stacking Chairs

Source/Product	Style	Cost Per Chair x125	Per Caddy x 4	Total w/o S&H - Installation
Brodart - Maestro	Plastic - Seat & Back	\$108.96	\$273.60	\$14,714.40
Demco -Compact	Plastic - Seat & Back	\$48	\$54.50	\$6,218
Henricksen - Fetch	Plastic - Seat & Back	\$80	\$340	\$11,360
Steelcase - Limerick	Plastic - Seat & Back	\$192	\$398	\$25,592
KI - Opt4	Mesh Seat/Plastic Back	\$135.72	\$198.12	\$17,757.48
Cost to Repair Existing Chairs		\$110 (2013)	NA	NA

I request that the Board approve an expenditure of \$19,232.48 from the Dorothy Moriarty Trust for the purchase of 125 meeting room chairs and 4 storage caddies from KI, including delivery and installation.

Current balance in the Dorothy Moriarty Trust - \$50,970.26