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Council adopts report on library

By Jolayne Houtz
Of the Emerald

Members of the Eugene City Council's library committee will start considering a new location for the Eugene Public Library after the council unanimously adopted a preliminary report on the library's future Monday.

The report calls for the expansion of the library to a two- to four-story building with 90,000 to 120,000 square feet, about triple the size of the existing building.

Council members initially disagreed over whether to adopt the report or to just accept it. Two councilors expressed concern that adopting the plan could commit the council to too much too soon.

Councilor Freeman Holmer said adopting the plan would be going too far by forcing the council to act on the report's specific recommendations, such as establishing branch libraries within five years of building a new central library and tripling the size of the new facility.

"There's lots of unknowns that we want to work on," said councilor Dick Hansen, who also initially opposed adoption of the report.

But councilor Emily Schue said the report would be a basis for the second phase of the committee's work, not a final recommendation.

Councilor Cynthia Wooten said adopting the report would be an incentive to the 13-member committee to continue its analysis. By just accepting the report, Wooten said, the council would be sending mixed signals to the committee and to the public about whether



Photo by Jolayne Houtz

Richard Gold, left, and Nan Cohen were part of a group who picketed Monday in front of the library. The group supports the new report, but opposes reduced library funding that has forced the library to cut hours.

council members actually intended to support the project.

A survey sent to 800 people regarding the report netted 189 responses. Of those, 155 mostly agreed with the report, 22 somewhat agreed, five somewhat disagreed and seven mostly disagreed.

The current library, built in 1959, is inadequate to serve the needs of Eugene's population, which has more than doubled since the library opened, said Jim Saul, vice chairman of the Future of Our Library committee. The building is the second-

most heavily used public facility in Eugene aside from Mahlon Sweet Airport, he added.

While some consideration has been given to remodeling the existing building, staff members discovered this fall that asbestos was used as a fire retardant in all the library ceilings.

The Future of Our Library committee now will come up with a final recommendation, possibly as early as next fall, including a specific site proposal and a cost estimate.

Caretaker leaves toolshed after letter controversy calls attention to dwelling

By Ted Fuller
Of the Emerald

Victor Anchor moved out of the Eugene Pioneer Cemetery toolshed Monday after it was determined that the building could not meet Eugene building code requirements for a dwelling unit.

Anchor, an employee of the Pioneer Cemetery Plot Owner's Association, took up residence in the toolshed last summer in an effort to prevent vandalism in the historic cemetery on the southwest side of campus.

Eugene police officer.

The incident occurred when Anchor, a Vietnam vet, was unexpectedly awakened in the middle of the night by a Eugene police officer. After the officer ordered him to leave the premises, Anchor threatened to douse the officer with gasoline and burn him. Anchor realized later that he had overreacted and apologized to the officer.

Anchor had another encounter with police on Thanksgiving Day. He told an Oregon Daily

'It is a shame he has to leave. It was working out for everybody, Victor and us. He wasn't hurting anybody, but somebody always has to make waves.'

— Ruth Holmes

He is caught in the middle of a controversy that erupted after a female student wrote a letter to the editor (ODE 11686) describing how she felt uneasy when Anchor watched her walk by. The letter also warned students to avoid the area.

The student wrote the letter after discussing the incident with campus security personnel and finding out about a run-in Anchor had with a

Emerald photographer that he was rousted out of bed at two in the morning by officers responding to a report of a woman screaming. He also said the police officers accused him of having the woman in the toolshed.

Eugene police officers did make contact with the caretaker concerning the report, said Sgt. Chuck Tilby of the Eugene Police

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Feminists say new ERA drive wrong direction for NOW

By Shawn Wirtz
Of the Emerald

Editor's note: This is the first of two articles on feminism. Today's article looks into the feminist reaction to the ERA. Tomorrow's article will explore the direction the women's movement is taking.

The National Organization for Women celebrated its 20th anniversary last week and vowed to renew the drive to ratify the Equal Rights Amendment in January, but some claim the fire has died out of feminism and women will have to broaden their base of support to pull off a victory.

Congress passed the ERA in 1972, but the amendment failed when only 35 of the required 38 states had ratified the ERA by the deadline of June 30, 1982.

Some feminists, while they support the ERA, believe another effort would be unsuccessful and may hurt the feminist movement.

"It's a tactical mistake. We made no progress on the ERA from 1976 to 1982," said Jane Mansbridge, an associate professor of political science and sociology at Northwestern University. Her book, "Why We Lost the ERA" was recently released by the University of Chicago Press.

Mansbridge believes there is less support now for the ERA than before. "In the unratified states, the ERA seemed actually to decline. In the ratified states, several legislatures tried to rescind," she said.

While there are more women in state legislatures, women "will never again have that honeymoon period (they) had in 1972 when 20 states ratified," Mansbridge said.

"In that early flurry, often legislatures didn't even hold hearings. When they did often only the proponents testified. That's never going to happen again," she said.

While the first ERA struggle turned NOW into the strongest non-governmental women's organization, it will face an even better-organized opposing coalition of conservatives and religious groups this time around, Mansbridge said.

The only chance at success is if the drive were to generate an official report from one of the houses of Congress, enumerating a point-by-point interpretation of the ERA "to reassure conservatives and the mainstream legislators that the sponsors of the ERA did not intend to mandate funding for abortion, drafting women into combat, etcetera," Mansbridge said.

"The grass roots supporters accepted a radical interpretation," Mansbridge added.

As a result, supporters did not dispute opponents' claims

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Graphic by Lorraine Rath