

Library in the mall?

C'fld may move facility into Chesterfield Mall

BY MARGARET O'BRIEN
VOICE STAFF WRITER

Chesterfield public library should be relocated to a temporary home in Chesterfield Mall, according to the committee studying the issue.

The 17-member body presented the results of its one-month search during a regular meeting of the Chesterfield Board of Trustees Nov. 4.

Based on size, availability, traffic, location and cost, the committee voted unanimously for the vacant florist shop site next to the former men's shop in the mall.

Costs to lease the 1,058 square foot site, which includes both office space and restrooms, are estimated at \$8,500 the first year, \$9,000 the second year and \$11,000 the third year.

The committee recommended that the township find a permanent location for the library within the next three years.

The library must find a new home because one of its founders, Ceola Trinity, has retired and is selling the township building in which it has been located for decades. The current facility is along Sugarbush Road.

The actual move will cost the township \$2,000.

"The township has helped the library before. I don't see why we can't continue to do so. Sometime down the road, the library is going to have to pay for itself. The general fund can't fund the library forever," Pollard said.

Some trustees raised concern at the township budget hearings Oct. 28 about the cost of the new shelving, estimated at \$15,000. The committee is considering shelving from Trinity Library or building its own.

"Yes, it's cheaper," said John Purvis, library committee member. "But part of the feeling of the committee is that we want it to look good. If we pull shelves from Trinity, it's not going to look good."

Macomb County Library agreed to help by enlarging the book collection, offering on-site video rentals and installing a manual or computer catalog.

The committee has suggested a Dec. 1 moving deadline, with the library scheduled to be open with the new year.