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Forest Lodge Library Suspends Joint-Use Negotiations with Cable Natural History Museum

CABLE, WI – The Forest Lodge Library (FLL) Board of Trustees has announced its decision to suspend ongoing negotiations with the Cable Natural History Museum (CNHM) regarding the proposed joint-use of the historic log cabin currently leased by the library.

This decision follows extensive discussions, planning efforts, and a thorough review of the proposed joint-use arrangements. After careful evaluation, the FLL Board concluded that the most recent CNHM proposal was not compatible with the library's mission or operational needs.

“Our foremost responsibility is to maintain open and equitable access to library services for all members of the public,” said the Forest Lodge Library Board. “Any shared-use model that limits hours, reduces available library space, or subjects patrons to non-library regulations would compromise that fundamental commitment.”

Plans for the library's future expansion and continued use of the log cabin had been developed over several years, with CNHM originally involved in discussions and expressing support for the construction of a connecting corridor between the historic cabin and a new addition. However, in November 2024, FLL was informed that CNHM no longer supported continued library use of the log cabin.

While the Library Board deeply regrets the loss of this historic home, it remains steadfast in its dedication to serving the community. The Forest Lodge Library will continue to provide free, open, and welcoming access to cultural, intellectual, and informational resources—ensuring its next chapter honors a century-long tradition of public service.

“We look forward to building a future that reflects the values of accessibility, learning, and community that have always defined the Forest Lodge Library,” the Board stated. “It is our sincere hope that the log cabin will remain a free and open resource for the entire community, in keeping with the vision of its founders.”

Construction for the new library building, located just west of the log cabin, has been underway since July 2025. Project completion and new building opening is expected to happen by September 2026. For updates on the Forest Lodge Library New Building Project and information regarding the Forest Lodge Library's mission, please visit www.forestlodgelibrary.org.

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