



## **Library Design Committee**

9/20/2005

Minutes

Present: Janice Burwash, Helen Doyle, Joan Martin, Christine Perkins, Ben Schertzer, Jane Sneeringer, Sally Straathof, Ross Jamieson and Brody Harris from Lewis Architects, Boyka Thayer from Tattersall Design and Dave McNeal from JGM Landscape Architects

Submitted by: Janice Burwash

Meeting convened in the City Hall Conference Room at 6:10 p.m.

Ross began by sharing information from a detailed set of drawings, very similar to what will go out for bid.

There was discussion about planned street improvements around the library site. It is still to be determined if the cost for improvements not adjacent to the library building will be a part of the library project or come from the street department budget. It would be nice to take care of these things at the same time, but it does add to the overall cost.

Ross asked if a decision had been made on the issue of bilingual signage. The library board of trustees has discussed it, but feels that it is a decision to be made by the city council. Christine shared her thought that there should be signage in Spanish for the various Spanish language collections. She also felt that it would be appropriate to have some of the other general signage (Information, Checkout etc.) in Spanish as well as English.

Ross noted that it will be necessary to take away about 2 feet of topsoil on the site that will be replaced with compacted structural fill.

Dave McNeal shared information about the site concerning parking and landscaping. It has been decided that in order to accommodate a sidewalk for pedestrians there will be parallel parking on the west side of Holly St. in the block next to the Baptist church and the chiropractor's office. That will slightly reduce the number of parking spaces available in that block. The paving pattern at the intersection of Washington and Holly will not include the circle pattern, to avoid any confusion that this intersection is to be treated as a roundabout. There will be a pattern to draw attention to the intersection which will become a 4-way stop. Crosswalks will be clearly marked to discourage pedestrians from cutting across the intersection.

Dave showed several varieties of trees that will be planted on the site. They have been chosen to be in scale with the building and where necessary, to accommodate overhead wires. They are not native trees, as native Washington trees tend to be forest trees. In addition to the trees there will be shrubs and groundcovers, many of which are native. All plants have been chosen to be drought tolerant once they are established.

After a question at the last meeting about the use of roof run-off for irrigation there had been discussion among the designers about some type of system that would trap this water. After considering a system that included holding barrels, it was decided to use a system that teams the building downspouts with French drains. In addition there will be an automatic irrigation system that will be especially valuable the first few years while the plants are getting established.

Ross reviewed the exterior colors and materials that had been chosen at the last committee meeting. The main exterior material will be bricks in shades of warm tan. Above that there will be corrugated metal siding in a red/brick color. The roof will be slate colored metal. Some of the windows may be tinted to help with heat rejection. Any exterior wood will be undercover where it will be protected from the weather.

Boyka showed samples of plain colored carpet she had found to coordinate with the two carpet patterns that have been chosen. The samples were blue and green, and she suggested using them both in different areas. The committee agreed with her suggestion. The green carpet will be used at the children's and circ. areas. The blue carpet will be used in the Teen area, with an accent wall of the same color.

Boyka also had samples of a tile border that will be used in the public restrooms and around the fireplace. The committee agreed that the border will work well with the floor tiles and accent colors that will be used throughout the building.

Boyka asked for input on the style of chair that will be used at tables in the public areas of the library. Christine said her preference was for an all wood chair, without upholstery, and the committee was in agreement.

It was decided that a Furniture Subcommittee will be formed to work with Boyka, rather than have the entire committee working on this aspect of the project. Members of this committee will be Jane, Sally, Janice and Christine, with Joan available to give input relating to people with disabilities.

Ross shared a few comments on the site lighting. There will be street lights on Holly St. like the lights that are on Fairhaven Ave. The lights directly around the building will be different, reflecting that fact that the library is in a residential area.

There was a discussion of the proposed sign at the corner of Holly and Fairhaven. The consensus of the committee seemed to be that the overall design should be simple, and incorporate river rock and a reader board to announce library programs. The committee also felt that it just needs to be a directional/informational sign for the library, not the entire library/parks complex.

Helen asked about the project budget. Currently the budget is at 6.85 million. Due to various factors there are still contingencies built into several items. The total also includes street improvements on Washington Ave. and Vernon Ave. extending to Anacortes St. that possibly could be shifted to the Street Department budget.

The projected timeline for the project is to send out for bids just after the first of the year, and begin construction in the spring. The total construction time is projected to be 12 months, 10 months construction followed by 2 months of set up.

The Furniture Committee will meet Tuesday, October 4 at 7:00 p.m. in the City Hall Conference Room.

The date and time for the next Design Committee meeting TBA.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.