

Held in Shutesbury Elementary School

Present

Library Building Committee: Mary Anne Antonellis, Stephen Dallmus, Brad Foster, Dale Houle, Penny Jaques, Molly Moss, Elaine Puleo (remote), Jeff Quackenbush

Design Team: Matt Oudens, Dominik Wit, Porpyla Kittisapkajon

Owners Project Managers: Roger Hoyt, Neil Joyce

MBLC: Lauren Stara, Andrea Bono-Bunker (remote)

Public: In person: 12; remote: 38 logins

Meeting opened at 7:07pm. Antonellis welcomed all to the second public forum. Much has changed since the first form in April. We are pleased with the progress we have made since then.

Presentation of new design details

Matt Oudens presented on behalf of the design team at Oudens Ello Architects. He noted that the estimate after 1st schematic design in April came back quite high. OEA regrouped to design a project that would come within budget.

A significant goal was to eliminate enough space to get below the 5,000 sf threshold, which is what triggers the requirement of a sprinkler system, By doing this we saved \$2 million of the targeted \$3 million reduction. Cost reduction was accomplished with very minimal reduction in the library program and very minimal shelving reduction.

The roof was switched from a monopitch roof to a metal offset gable roof. The gable roof is easier to construct and easier to install; this also allowed a lower ceiling.

The exterior siding will be long-lasting, no maintenance slate shingles

The goal is still to build a net zero building; solar on the roof will power the building.

Interior details include a wood ceiling with sound absorbing baffles in the Community Room, Childrens and Adults Areas. It is a small building but feels open.

In the first design, the building was located further back into the site. It has been moved North (toward Leverett Road) by 100 ft. This results in a considerable savings in site work, the length of the road and utilities. The previous designed required significant tree clearing, moving forward greatly reduces amount of clearing.

Significant changes from the original schematic to the new schematic include:

- Building Gross Area reduced 26% *but* Net Program Reduction only 16%
- Collection reduced by only 5%
- Glazing reduced 49%
- Energy use reduction estimated to be 17%
- The 35% cost reduction got us on budget

Question and Answer Period

Q: What is Glulam?

A: Glue Laminated Wood, which allows for a long span using smaller pieces of wood that have been glued together. It is cost effective, installation is simpler than steel, and is attractive. Plus, the wood sequesters carbon.

Q: When will we see a more fleshed-out design with Specification of Materials?

A: We are half-way through start of design to going out to bid. Exterior: Green slate siding, with a steel roof. Final decisions on interior finishes will be made before the project goes out to bid.

Q: Concern about toxicity of Glulam

A: Adhesives have switched from oil based to water based, so low VOC.

Q: Are stacks wheel-chair accessible.

A: Yes, MBLC requires this.

Q: Will the library be that green color?

A: The slate is a little grayer than what the slide image shows and has variation. Slate is a 100-year material that requires very little maintenance and has no issues with moisture. Wood is used in minimal amounts. Exploring modified (thermally or chemically) wood that is rot and pest it resistant.

Q: What is the size of the parking lot and how does that relate to the Community Room space?

A: Standard is 1 space for every 400 gross feet = 14 spaces for this design. We have talked about shoulder parking along driveway. We are trying not to pave large areas on the property.

Q: What are plans for ventilation? Will there be fresh air coming into building?

A: Yes - Natural air will be brought into building, code requires bringing in air. The system provides 3 air changes/hour. It will use MERV 13 filters – highest rate you can get without stressing system and increasing cost of use. Some operable windows will be part of the design.

Q: What is life-expectancy of this building?

A: Much comes down to maintenance and use, easily 50 years. Slate is a 100-year material. The mechanical equipment would fail first – 25-30 years. We will pick interior finishes and furnishings that are durable - contract grade furniture which are meant for heavy use.

Q: “Assembly occupancy building” by code requires sprinkler system. Explain.

A: Rationale: sprinkler systems are for safety of occupants, they are meant to allow you enough time to get out in event of fire. This is one-story building with 6 exits, so it should empty quickly.

Q: What about comfortable seating?

A: Soft seating will be located in the Reading Nook, near window in the Adults Section and the Children’s Room, in the Study room and in the Teen Room.

Community room can have chairs for lectures or set up with tables for other activities.

Comment: Looks great!

Q: Is there a door to separate Children’s Room.

A: Yes, a glass pocket door will control activity and provide some sound separation.

Q: How big are Children's and Adults spaced? Size of space and linear feet of shelving

A: Adult: 851 sq ft with 591 linear ft for collections; Children's: 781 sq ft & 513 linear ft for collections.

Q: Where will well and septic be located and will they require anything exceptional?

A: Septic will be in NE corner of property, outside 100' wetland buffer, and greater than 100' from abutters well. It will be a raised septic field. The berm of septic will be planted to integrate it into the site. The well will be in the SW corner of building, outside wetland buffer. Both the septic and the well need to be engineered and designed.

Q: Will there be a craft sink in Children's Room?

A: No, but there is a sink in the kitchenette in Community Room.

Q: Is there an outdoor space for children's activities?

A: The Landscape Architect is developing usable outdoor space but there is not a play space planned or formal outdoor space.

Q: Can we develop outdoor spaces for the future?

A: Yes, Libraries continue to evolve after they are built.

Q: What efforts have been made to prevent flooding?

A: Stormwater management is part of the project design. It's a large site with little impervious surface. A water retention system will be created under parking lot to store water long enough for it to slowly infiltrate. A drainage swale will take water from E side of building to a storage basin. The stormwater management system is designed for flood events.

Q: Can we add a covered pavilion later?

A: Yes, nothing in design precludes this. It must meet code & must be separate from library building.

Q: Moving the building closer to the road means more road noise. Is there a plan to mitigate noise?

A: There is no plan to mitigate road noise. Compared most projects, this is about as good as it gets. We are still a distance from Leverett Road. An active acoustic system will control noise with space.

Q: Can we show slate to online participants?

A: No, but samples of materials will be available at library.

Q: Can we post meeting video soon

A: The Town Clerk posts meetings on town YouTube. She will post when she returns from her conference. Links exterior materials will be posted.

Send questions: email to libbuild@shutesbury.org All Library Design meetings are posted on town calendar. Slides from tonight's presentation are posted at:

<https://www.shutesbury.org/sites/default/files/files-and-images/Public%20Forum%20September%2026%2C%202023.pdf>