

Library Building Committee Design Subcommittee

October 2, 2023 1 pm, on Zoom

Minutes

SLBC Design Subcommittee Members Present: Stephen Dallmus, Jeff Quackenbush, Mary Anne Antonellis, and Lauren Stara

Guests: Matt Oudens, Dominik Wit, Porpla Kittisapkajon, Roger Hoyt, Penny Jaques and Molly Moss

Mary Anne mentioned that the geotechnical soil borings and storm water management test pits are scheduled for Tuesday, October 3rd. Roger Hoyt will attend.

Dallmus made a motion to approve the corrected minutes from the September 13, 2023. Jeff seconded the motion. Minutes passed unanimously.

Fuss and O'Neill were onsite to do a perc test on September 27th. A perc was completed in one area but the civil engineer wanted to do a second perc slightly to the west. The backhoe broke as the second pit was being dug. They will return later in October to finish.

Plan Revisions

Electrical room door has been returned to the interior wall of the meeting room.

Library of Things (LOT) display area. Shelving is designed to house specific items such as the telescope and paddles and life vests but the shelving will be flexible to accommodate the LOT collection as it changes seasonally and over time.

Left of LOT is a browsing area with 33 linear feet with cabinets above the shelving.

The shelving in this area will be custom millwork.

Roger asked if there will be a place for patrons to hang their coats. Matt said coat closets are not usually provided and that the expectation is that the patrons will keep their coats with them.

Lauren mentioned that they sometimes see a wheeled coat rack in the community room. Wall hooks are also an option.

Dominik mentioned the small wall niche that will accommodate nine linear of shelves that we have created to the left of the circulation desks. It can be used for holds or some other purpose.

There will be shelves or a cabinet under the printer.

Children's Room

The goal is to maximize collections. Currently there is 516 linear feet of shelving planned, 92 percent of the shelving called for in the program. Various configurations were explored.

Lauren asked where will the play space be in the children's room and where will the play things be stored. She wonders if a glass wall instead of a sliding door could create some additional storage. Lauren also asked about the ease of operating the sliding door.

Dominik one goal of the sliding door is to create a sense of openness. Matt and Dominik will look into finding a door installed nearby that we could test for ease of use. The door is about eight feet wide.

Discussion about flipping the location of the computer table and the table and chairs.

There was a question about where storytime would be held – Mary Anne pictures it happening in the meeting room. Brief discussion about products such as cushions that can be used for storytime.

Mary Anne questioned the number of chairs in the children's room and pointed out a discrepancy in the building program between the seating chart and the area description. Mary Anne said two computer stations are not called for in the building program and instead envisions giving children a laptop or tablet to use. Mary Anne likes the wide opening as pictured.

Matt mentioned that he can picture kids playing on the surface at the window.

Mary Anne said some toys, like Legos, would be used programmatically. Others would be rotated from time to time.

Dominik mentioned that display space above the wall shelves could be used for items that staff or parents would access.

Children's room layout option 3 has 555 LF for collections and more open space for seating. The small rectangular, four high shelving in one section has a void in the center. It does have display space on top. It is a mobile unit.

Stephen echoed the sentiment that the opening between the children's and adult area be maintained but maybe there could be a foot and a half section of fixed glazing so the sliding door wouldn't be quite as large.

Discussion about the best strategy for providing space for children to use a laptop or tablet. A small table could provide flexible use such as technology or a puzzle or board game.

Children's electronic gaming will be available on a programmed basis in the meeting room.

Exterior Development

Operable windows will be placed in the meeting room on the west side, the staff work room, the adult's north facing and the children's north facing as well as in the clerestory windows in the children's room to provide cross ventilation, the study, the director's office and teens room.

The windows will be a mixture of casement windows in some locations and awning windows in the more public spaces. The windows can be provided with a removable crank if desired.

Awning windows prevent rain from entering the building. Screens will be included.

Stephen commented that the torque needed to close wide casement windows can make operating them difficult.

Lauren asked about where and how gutters will be used. This is an ongoing conversation between OEA and their landscape architect. Lauren mentioned that the storm water system for this building should be built for the extreme weather we are getting.

Stephen mentioned that gutters require regular maintenance. Jeff mentioned that the storm water management in the areas with wood siding be planned to protect the wood surface from premature aging.

OEA is still looking at how they will configure the roof in areas where there are bump outs and potential wood siding and they may consider gutters in those areas.

OEA is considering an extension of the gable roof to cover the bump out on the west side and they are exploring an upslope roof over the entry on the east side.

Site Plan

The surveyor has staked out the location of the building. OEA and Stimson did a site visit. They found a landscaped condition at the south of the site, with stone work, fencing, and trees. They are planning to move the building closer to Leverett Road to avoid the increased cost of excavation and landscaping that would be needed at the South End of the building if left in the currently staked location.

Brief discussion regarding the location of the borings and test pits. The consensus is that those locations do not need to change in anticipation of a 20-foot shift in the location of the building.

Next Library Building Committee meeting – Tuesday, October 10th, 7 pm, in-person at Town Hall and on Zoom. OEA will bring samples of interior products. Mary Anne asked about tile colors.

The LBC Design Subcommittee will meet on Friday, October 5th at noon.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary Anne Antonellis