

## **Building Design Committee**

9:00-10:30 – Children and Teens Subcommittee

Present: Will Bruder, Bill Cochran, Stella Fong, Lloyd Mickelson, Nick Modrow, Don Olsen, Kim Olsen, Cindy Patterson, Dee Ann Redman

Bruder showed a short presentation with images of other children/teen spaces in libraries he has designed. He noted features that will be or could be incorporated into the space design for the Billings library, including:

- small children's garden
- translucent colored fiberglass panels
- furniture scaled for children but that adults can sit on
- teen living room for casual seating
- computers with headphones
- video screen in teen area
- magazine displays for teens
- college depot
- digital studio – audio & video studios, computers for post-production
  - could do version here for +/- \$200K
- story cone with operable sunshade
- children's interactives from Berger group
- favor the child over the adult in their environment

Bruder then reviewed the plan status

Q- Will these be the images that will be shown to the public at public meetings?

A - There still will be public meetings for input, but major design changes cannot be accommodated at this point. Tweaks to the design can be incorporated, and will have a dialogue regarding the subcommittee topics.

A donor who is sponsoring other major areas of the new library has also made an additional donation to add a water feature. The proposed water feature will be approximately 18 x 14 feet in an ovoid shape, and located partially under the staircase on the first level. Bruder presented several thoughts about this feature.

- Design is developing use of native stone around elevators and for stair treads
- The feature will be a reflective element that will soften this area
- There will be wood bench nearby
- The feature will be clad in stone
- Water will run over edge under stairs; will hear water moving
- Investigate water plants, but suggest they be in pots for replacement and removal ease
- Add coins to pond; clean out three times per year; funds to Friends or the like.
- In the Phoenix pools, there has been no litter problem; got pencils floating occasionally

- Maintenance requirements: drain every 18 months and clean. Resurfaced twice in 15 years at Phoenix
- There will be an edge for safety so nobody inadvertently steps into the pool.

## TEEN AREA

The Teen area will be on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, with a graphic neon sign for easy location.

There will be two glass bubble study rooms. The glass will be covered with a translucent film for a sense of privacy. There will be solid doors, a marker wall, a flat screen video, and a table for six.

The collections will be housed on one solid range, with all formats along that range including both av and print.

There will be computer tables with 8 pcs arranged for shared use. A video screen will hang in the in corner to minimize glare. There is a potential to have equipment to play music lists.

This area will be near the individual study tables, for those who prefer a quieter study space. These will have outlets to plug into the floor and be wifi friendly.

Nick Modrow, who had served on the original teen focus group was asked for his reaction to the design. He said that it seems like a larger space and bright. He suggested adding more seating near collection. He wants it to be a cool environment, noting books are still there for teen use. He appreciated that teens won't be boxed in to a little area and that it was purposely designed for that group of users. He notes that it is not a place where you are sent; but where you want to go, and liked the collaborative space.

Will Bruder brainstormed some potential future additions, such as a smart wall; and digital voice recognition for Reader's Advisory purposes.

The Board will need to decide about food and drink in library spaces, since teens like both in their area. Modrow suggested that we look for healthy vending options at good prices.

## CHILDREN'S AREA

Interactive First Five year area will have a bench for seating. Adult seating in the area will be in order to focus on children's activities.

Story Area: Cochran suggested adding low scale apertures for kids to look into the cone. Bruder also suggested high up clerestory windows to bring more light into the cone. Adult seating will be along interior walls, with pillows for children to be placed on the soft floor. Bruder is working with acoustics and lighting. There was a suggestion to add a drop-down screen for video; this should be hidden in the soffit so it is only visible when in use. On the exterior, storage cupboards for

stuffed animals will be added for librarians. There will also be an art wall on the outside. It will use reclaimed lumber; staff can staple artwork on them.

The parenting & homeschooling materials will be housed in children's area.

We need to revisit seating count vs collection.

Holiday collections: there is a need to revisit space needed by individual holiday to determine how much needs to be available at one time. Bruder asked about the ideal collection location. Patterson noted that there is always a holiday upcoming. Bruder suggested creating a holiday island.

The craft area will have a sliding wall opens to small garden.

Do we need rectangular tables for homework?

### TECHNOLOGY SUBCOMMITTEE

Present: Kelly Addy, Will Bruder, Bill Cochran, Steve Cross, Stella Fong, Jane Howell, Lloyd Mickelson, Don Olsen, Kim Olsen, Cindy Patterson, Dee Ann Redman, Suzanne Reymer, Kathy Robins, Dave Schaer, Mike Schaer, David Watterson.

Cochran discussed the need to reconfigure utilities on the building site and status of the reconfiguration plan. It is a given that there will need to be an adequate technology infrastructure on the site. Cochran noted that the library is in the middle of discussions with utilities about relocating power and data lines that run between the downtown core and the medical corridor. Power runs through the alley on overhead lines, Integra has its fiber attached to the building, and the gas line is underground. Stockman Bank has advised regarding their property, and the Billings Clinic have been helpful with their property to the north. The costs must be paid off-budget by library as part of site delivery costs.

The Clinic wants all utilities to share a trench on 29<sup>th</sup> for future of medical campus. It is likely that existing utilities will come up on property in the alley between the bank and the Dude Rancher and take off to NW diagonally across parking lot and share that trench. No lines will go under or over the building.

Watterson discussed considerations for running data lines to the facility. The City has fiber running from 27<sup>th</sup> over to existing building currently, but it goes through on a pedestal that is vulnerable to traffic accidents. Options include splicing into the current line and trunking it into the building. It would be ideal to come down 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue N and up into building.

The city fiber runs staff side of library with access to city resources. The public access with Integra goes through city routing currently, but Watterson surmises

that in the new library, Integra access will be handled separately.

There was a discussion about the data capacity needed in the new library. Dave Schaer noted that it would be a function of what the library can afford. There is a real need to dial up the bandwidth. We will be limited by budget and what the backbone can provide. Potential uses such as live video seminars or high definition streaming video will require large capacity. We need lots of quality wifi capability. Schaer recommended that the group not underestimate the need for access. He suggested that the library go to its current ISP (Integra) and ask what is possible and what they can provide.

Other suggestions included:

- Look for the long run
- Need to make sure there's plenty of upstream access for uploading data
- Consider the upper end capacity for fiber, both for staff and public
- Reymer suggested a possibility for e-rate funding for lines as long of there is competitive bidding

Considerations for the building project:

- When do we need to find information and how to engineer into building
- need to coordinate with underground features of building
  - rainwater collection
  - french drains
- Box would be surface level pull box paid through city funds

Utility relocation considerations:

- No costs to get into library (other than relocation)
- will need to let other utilities know when trench is opened
  - Optimum, Century Link, etc.

Server room – A discussion took place about what will be trunked into this room, and the number of racks needed for servers and switches, and phone system requirements. Watterson and Robins will meet to determine requirements and will forward their conclusions to Bruder or his associate Richard Jensen.

Watterson also asked about design for the network infrastructure. He wanted to know about the number of access points, what will be used. Bruder has a consultant electrical engineer who will be working on this.

Cochran asked the group to brainstorm about the technology wow factor. What can we look for or hope for in the future? Thoughts included:

- lots of downloadable digital content to customers
- authoritative specialized content in electronic form
- wireless devices for staff
- cloud computing
- virtual desktops for public computing

- a space that encourages people to go to library to learn
- transform the library into where you communicate with the world
- schedule of guest lecturers from around the world through high definition video on big screens
- Ability to project 3-d holographic images
- Library as an example of what's possible; inspirational
- Bring media aspect to communication and education
- make it interactive
- videoconferencing facility at super quality
- Discovery for devices, technologies, tools, digital studio
- learning new skills
- noncommercial entity that people trust
- people bring in own devices
- connected and interactive with people
- provide devices for checkout
- Devices – infrastructure – content; library can provide all or part
- role of library in relation to school system
- room for conferencing
- students who need access for reports
- parents follow students online
- enrichment courses
- need to pay attention to technology capacities in all meeting rooms
- flexibility in furnishing
- directional sound capacities for video or audio usage areas; in either personal or group area
- look outside box of traditional library technologies; look to museums, other types of spaces

### Sustainability

Present: Nikki Broch, Will Bruder, Bill Cochran, Saree Couture, Frank Cross, Anya Fiechtl, Stella Fong, Blaine Jensen, Bill Kehler, Lloyd Mickelson, Mary Murphrey, Don Olsen, Kim Olsen, Robyn Peterson, Mary Drew Powers, Dee Ann Redman

Bruder and Kim Olsen discussed current status with regard to progress toward LEED certification. They noted that the building envelope is in good shape for LEED. There are hopes to bump up to the gold level within the same budget if possible.

Glass technologies have been carefully examined due to volume of glass. The cost-benefit for triple pane windows notes that it may not be most efficient return; the current plan is for double pane. Frits and coatings may help with efficiencies.

The material now proposed for the scrim has a 77% closed screen with 1/8<sup>th</sup> inch holes. Bruder is finely tuning the north facade after energy analysis; it may be more open weave on that side; the larger energy load is to the south.

The sustainability issues of the site are under consideration. The plan is to have a parking garden to counter the urban heat effect. The plant selection is upcoming with the landscape architect. Plans are for both urban and native plant choices. A new design has trees in entry/transition space and meeting garden. There will be 30-40 trees in parking area. The parking area has a discussion of asphalt vs. concrete; a light-colored surface is desirable, but there is a concern about pedestrian vs. vehicle traffic and wanting a clear demarcation of those zones.

Fiechtl presented suggestions on a variety of topics as raised by members of the Yellowstone Valley Citizens Council.

- Water efficiency: A rainwater capture system is planned. The cistern's size and location to be determined based on plantings
- Energy and atmosphere: Current plans call for a 24% energy savings. Fiechtl noted that federal projects require a 30% standard and wondered about matching that. The response was that energy modeling is still to come.
- Renewable energy to support adding Photovoltaics. Fiechtl notes that Northwest Energy has grants, and asks for consideration of setting up building for future addition of photovoltaics. She also noted that green power can be purchased. Staff can explore that availability.
- Materials and resources. YVCC suggests that we aim for use of regional and recycled content, and write a recycling plan requirement into specifications for contractors. Concrete and stone are available locally.
- Indoor environmental quality LEED points are not specified. Architects note that this should be possible; they will know when design is finalized.
- Green housekeeping. Cochran noted that some of this is already underway at the current facility. For LEED, it was recommended that the library develop a statement of intent and protocols for green housekeeping. It is noted by Peterson that different specifications may apply in the Montana Room due to the preservation needs for historic materials. A plan for technology waste should also be addressed.
- Green furnishing may be worth an innovation point for all air-quality-certified furnishing. Bruder noted that this was in the plans.
- LEED pilot credits give ideas for innovation points. One idea is to provide green building education – different approaches must be used. YVCC was interested in bike network points; this may not be possible because it requires closed storage. Hybrid bookmobile may be a consideration for alternate fuels space. The library can look into the use of bio-diesel during summer months.
- Measurement and verification is required to report utility results. Step above for credit for engineers to come back after occupancy to show performance for one year.

There was a discussion about the LEED commissioning process. It was

recommended that the committee start on the process as the project begins. Kim Olsen explained that the project is already registered, and the case is being built. Fiechtl notes that one can do design submittal along the way, and get feedback, with final construction submittal at end of project. She pointed out that some elements will be audited.

Demolition processes were discussed briefly. The current building will be dropped into the basement. It was asked if the Underriner building could be used for fill. The answer was that it was unlikely, due to asbestos and oil contamination. Some salvage may be possible.

### Interior Design

Present: Nikki Broch, Will Bruder, Bill Cochran, Saree Couture, Frank Cross, Kathy Cross, Stella Fong, Jane Howell, Suzanne McKiernan, Lloyd Mickelson, Mary Murphrey, Evelyn Noennig, Don Olsen, Kim Olsen, Cindy Patterson, Dee Ann Redman, Cara Schaer

Bruder displayed many of the interior design elements and gave an overview of some of the decisions.

- Flooring – There was a carpet allowance \$30/yd for the areas that require it. The patterns and colors are reminiscent of farm fields in the area. The samples shown are all on budget. Other flooring choices include polished concrete and local sandstone.
- Ceilings – many will be sheet rock, but there is also a product called Tectum, which looks like shredded wheat and helps with sound absorption. This is intended for the great reading room.
- Wood elements – Will be used on the grand stairs with steel railings and ebonized oak and stone treads
- Fabrics – will be ballistic cloth, which is very cleanable, heavy wearing, doesn't stain
- Colors in interior will be a consistent palette. It will strive to be timeless. Bruder notes that people have visceral reactions to color. Design should rise above fashion; it must be stable and long-lasting, and appropriate to place. Color is not by committee. The palette is reminiscent of farm lands, fields, grains and local landscape.
- Pattern – It adds lots of texture and color waves. It will be found in fabrics and carpets, which will vary by space

Bruder spoke about the proposed water feature. (See above)

Bruder displayed images of some possible seating and furniture choices. Children's furnishing included stacking chairs, solid colors, softness, animal forms. Lounge chairs will come in a variety to be comfortable to many sizes and shapes of users. Hutterite furniture might be an option.

Bruder talked about new renderings. He notes that there has been a lively

reaction to the sign in the previous rendering. This will be changed, and will be neutralized. Though he is still looking for an idea of warmth in winter, it will be a different shape and size. He will reissue rendering with new sign.

In early September the architects will bring forward 4-5 new images. As part of the design process, they have developed a digital model. Suggestions for the new renderings included the children's area, the popular materials area, the teen area, the northeast reading room, the Montana room and the exterior. Possible suggestions were also the meeting room and technology spaces. The image of the exterior will show the revised sign and the change to a perforated metal skin. There was also a suggestion to show how public suggestions are being incorporated. Bruder suggested that any promotional pieces with pictures of the current facility show it in black and white.

Lighting will be state of the art, with LED technology and controls. There will be sensors for light levels in book stacks, with stack lighting from top to bottom of range. Casual seating areas will contain lamps for reading. The community tables will have LED translucent divider panels. There will be on/off sensors in restrooms and office areas. The glass exposures have fixed elements protecting them, so no drapes or shades are needed. In staff areas, there will be LED, fluorescent and task lighting.

The best art space will be in the Montana Room. Otherwise, there are few key open space walls. Architects will add an art map at some point to show space available, but it will be more for sculptural elements than wall space. In the meeting room, we may want themed art or matted photographs. Bruder notes that photos play well; people often hate one painting but rarely hate photos.

#### Full Library Building Design Committee

MEMBERS PRESENT: Co-Chair Lloyd Mickelson, Co-Chair Frank Cross, Bill Cochran, Nicki Broch, Saree Couture, Stella Fong, Jane Howell, Blaine Jensen, Cindy Patterson, Robyn Peterson, Mary Drew Powers, Suzanne Reymer, Kathy Robins, David Watterson.

GUESTS PRESENT: Kelly Addy, Assistant City Attorney; Will Bruder, Will Bruder+Partners; Kathy Cross, Parmly Billings Library Foundation; Suzanne McKiernan, Ballot Initiative Committee; Mary Murphrey, Administrative Coordinator; Evelyn Noennig, Parmly Billings Library Foundation; Don Olsen, O<sup>2</sup> Architects; Kim Olsen, O<sup>2</sup> Architects; Dee Ann Redman, Assistant Library Director; Cara Schaer, Parmly Billings Library Foundation

Bruder gave a brief review of the building and site concept and relationship. He has met with landscape arch and engineers. The design is based on a "parking garden" and will be heavily landscaped. There will be separate pedestrian and vehicle traffic areas, with a transition zone so people can move from parking area without walking along car area.

A buffer zone in the plaza area will have both an urban and natural landscape. There are no plans for curbs in this area. It will have prairie grasses and two trees, and a stone wall. Bruder talked about his quarry visit near Harlowton, and the big specimen rocks. There will be sidewalks around the building. The plan calls for recycled concrete slabs as flagstone. Outdoor space for staff is now included. The children's garden will have resin panels, and small groups can meet outside for stories.

Two curb cuts are planned for the parking area; one on 28<sup>th</sup> and one on 29<sup>th</sup> street. The sweep of book drop is natural. A barrier will keep people from trying to do pickups along sixth ave. Existing trees will be reused where possible. Asphalt is dominant for parking area. It will be simply striped to allow for snow removal.

Mickelson opened discussion of public meetings. It will be planned to have three, one each in the west end, the heights, and a central area. Architectural plans can be explained by O<sup>2</sup> Architects. Bruder will be back twice before election, and could perhaps attend another final public meeting in October when ballots come out. Cochran noted that the meetings have two functions: 1) Give an overview of where we're at in a series of local meetings with local architects 2) Presentation of deliverables, the last set of drawings before election. We can do three meetings that day.

Committee members are looking to speak to task force meetings at Heights, South Side, West End. Kim Olsen, Don Olsen, and Bill Cochran will present, and Council members from that ward are to be invited. We hope to attend meetings in September, and would like to invite committee members to come along as a show of support. Cochran suggests that members of the bond initiative or the campaign committees could be there to be introduced and can be referred to for answers within their purview. These are information-sharing sessions.

Since few people were present at each previous session, there was a brief overview of the day presented by Kim Olsen.

Next committee meeting will have a presentation on changes. Kim Olsen will ask for images on Bruder's ftp site for committee access.

Adjourned: 5:15 pm.