

Library Building Design Committee  
Meeting Notes  
Wednesday, June 27 2012

MEMBERS PRESENT: Co-Chair Lloyd Mickelson; Co-Chair Frank Cross; Bill Cochran, Saree Couture, Stella Fong, Bill Kehler, Lyn McKinney, Cindy Patterson, Suzanne Reymer, Brent Roberts, Kathy Robins.

GUESTS PRESENT: Mary Murphrey, Administrative Coordinator; Will Bruder, Richard Jensen, Marjorie Whitton, Will Bruder + Partners Architects; Eric Simonsen, A&E Architects; Kim Olsen, O2 Architects; Jane Thomas, Friends of the Library.

Mickelson asked for a moment of silence in remembrance of Committee member Jane Howell, who had passed away since the previous Committee meeting.

### **Site preparation project report**

Cochran reported that the

- Underminer demolition is complete.
- Utilities relocation is complete.
- Over excavation project should be completed by June 29.
- The one-way westbound vehicle access is open, the 60' of chain link fence has been installed and the sloped concrete at the entrance has been removed and replaced with concrete matching sidewalk for wheelchair access.

### **Project status and timetable**

Bruder reported that

- Six addendums to the bid package were issued.
- The bid award was unanimously approved by the City Council on June 25.
- The award included three alternates
  - A ground concrete floor finish
  - Stone on the outside of the garden wall
  - Buffalo bricks in the parking entry way and book drop turn around.

### **Furniture**

Whitton gave a presentation on the furniture for the new Library building. Cross raised the following issues.

- The closest dealer for the proposed task chair is in Helena, Montana with a limited staff which will hinder the response time for servicing the chairs should issues arise.
- Office workers may benefit from a task chair with more ergonomic adjustments.
- Lounge furniture needs to be able to accommodate large people.
- Half of the chairs at the reading tables should not have arms to accommodate for a person larger than 22".
- The finish process on Herman Miller chairs should be looked at to ensure that they stand up to the local environment.
- The Thomas Mosler chair has a dainty look for the Montana Room. Other Committee members disagreed.

- Concern expressed about a chair with a 4 star, retractable seat in the Library Director's office. Guest chairs may not slide easily on carpet tile.

By consensus, it was agreed that Cross would provide the comments in writing for inclusion in the Committee Meeting Notes, for consideration by the design team.

### **Fall technology planning workshop**

Robins reported that the fall technology workshop will be held at MSU-B's College of Technology on September 15. She noted that Michael Porter and David Lee King, nationally known library speakers, will present at the workshop and that BTOP grant funding will be available to help with the expenses. Postcards announcing the event will be sent out. The event will be followed with a teen workshop the following week.

### **Groundbreaking ceremony**

Cochran noted that the groundbreaking ceremony will be held Thursday, June 28 at 5 p.m. Those attending will be asked to line up on the outline of the building site for a photo which will be taken from the rooftop of the current Library building.

### **Plan next meeting**

Jensen suggested that the next meeting be held the second week of September.

Adjourned 7:30 pm

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Library Building Design Committee Meeting, June 27, 2012  
Questions and Comments from Frank Cross

The product presented in the power point and in hard copy is a fantastic collection and look for our new library. Since these are images only and no brand is specified at this time, my comments are only based on my knowledge of the product and the contract furniture business. I fully realize that the final furniture proposal will address these but was asked to list these concerns.

# 1 The task chair that is proposed in many areas, service desks, friends workroom, facilities, conference, etc. is a great looking chair and as pointed out has minimal parts that can go wrong. I am concerned that if a problem does arise with this chair the closest dealer is in Helena Montana and has a limited staff for a rapid response to servicing the chair should a issue arise.

I think minimal adjustments are perfect for the public, but for offices and areas dedicated to a consistent office worker, perhaps a chair with more ergonomic adjustments may be a considered option. I am referring to facilities, childrens, 226,230, and 231. A fixed loop arm is not very forgiving for a short person who is required to "mouse". Again, I love the look and am just providing feedback.

# 2 The lounge furniture shown fits the look of our new library perfectly, in my profession I am constantly reminded of the bariatric concerns of today's society. My only concern was that we make sure that some pieces hold the 500 lb people that do exist. The trick is how we make sure the large person sits in that chair! The images of the chairs in the reading tables areas all show arms, maybe we should consider half with and half without arms to again compensate for a person larger than 22". I know these are just images and the detailed specifications will address this.

# 3 I have been a fan of Herman Miller bent plywood for many years and have Eames pieces in my home as well as my 3 siblings, all of our 30 year old chairs a "flecked" over time. I love the piece, as I consider it art and history, and maybe Herman Miller has perfected the finish process to deal with all environments. It was just a comment and perhaps a bit of jealousy of a product that is not available to a local dealer.

# 4 My concern that the Thomas Mosler Contract chair was a dainty look for the Montana Room was shot down by other committee members.

# 5 If Bill likes the chairs proposed for his office then that is all that counts, I still have a concern about a 4 star, retractable seat, side chair, being scooted on carpet tile either up to a desk or around a table. If the chair is meant to stay in place then it is an excellent look.

Thank you for allowing me to voice my opinion and I look forward to helping any way I can.