

## LIBRARY DESIGN COMMITTEE MEETING – 9/4/12

Members Attending: Library Director Bill Cochran, Co-Chair Frank Cross, Co-Chair Lloyd Mickelson, Members Blaine Jensen, Cindy Patterson, Robyn Peterson, Suzanne Reymer, Brent Roberts, Kathy Robins

Guests Attending: Don Olsen, O2 Architects; Assistant Director Dee Ann Redman

Mickelson called the meeting to order at 5:15 pm

Mickelson made some opening remarks reminding the committee of the important role they play in advising the Library with regard to the furniture plan.

### 1. PROJECT UPDATE

Cochran noted that the project has started. The contractor started slowly, getting their trailer set up and utilities on site, but are now moving along. The footings for the new building are progressing with the first concrete being poured. The webcam is now up and operational at <http://ci.billings.mt.us/webcam>.

Olsen noted that many submittals are flying back and forth for materials selection. Concrete placement will be going forward for some time. Concrete masonry unit will soon be in place with mock-ups for the finished walls. These blocks will be sandblasted to echo the forms of the Rims before installation. Steel structural framing is scheduled to begin going up in early to mid-October. One of the alternates selected for the plan added some sandstone around the meeting room garden on the exterior. Another alternate was for the Buffalo block to be reclaimed from Montana Avenue for the entry and book drop driving area; this will be reviewed. It appears that the reclamation project is not getting as much out of Montana Ave as would be necessary to complete this feature. Also added by alternate was the polished concrete floor. Elevator specifications have been identified; plans call for customizing a standard elevator rather than ordering a fully customized elevator – this will save significant money.

Cross asked Olsen about obtaining a list of subcontractors. He noted that committee members are getting asked about the number of local companies. Olsen said there are many local companies among the subcontractors, and a list can be supplied.

Cochran noted contractor's proposed calendar shows new building complete by mid-October 2013.

Olsen noted that all the gravel brought in during site prep is a regional material that counts toward LEED rating.

### 2. PREPARATION FOR iLIBRARY TECHNOLOGY DISCUSSION

Robins reminded all committee members that they should have received invitations to Sept 15 event, which runs from 9am-2:30pm. Noted library futurists will help lead a discussion to come up with ideas for new library. Local technology experts will talk about new trends in a number of fields. Participants will also be able to talk about the way they do use and would like to use technology. Think about community partnerships – who could partner with the library, who wants to partner with the library.

What community goals could technology help achieve? There will be surveying and polling along the way to get some statistical information. There will also be a teen session in October.

### 3. FURNITURE DESIGN

Cross spoke regarding his challenges to the furniture design at the previous meeting. He outlined concerns about furniture speaking to the local mixture of people's various sizes and designs specific to this library, as opposed to those that have been successfully used in other Bruder-designed libraries. There was some discussion among the committee about the possibility of asking for alternative selections for the palette of seating. Peterson asked about the design philosophy behind the furniture selections and how they tie to the building's design and feel. Mickelson expressed interest in obtaining some public feedback on seating selections. Cochran indicated that he will need to review any suggested changes that would impact the budget. Jensen wants to be able to communicate what the overall concept for furniture is to community members. The committee discussed the plan to bring samples to an upcoming meeting; when samples are viewed, if there is a sample that people are concerned about, how would it be changed, and how that change be incorporated? Jensen noted that the process thus far for the project has been about collaboration on concept rather than specifics, and we're not clear about the furniture concept.

Marjorie Whitton's responses to previously stated concerns were brought up. Item 1 is deferred to staff. Item 2a is okay. Item 2b is an acceptable answer. Item 2c is understood. Item 3 is considered an architect's signature piece; this is okay. Cochran will send a message to the Design Team, summarizing the Committee's questions regarding the furniture plan

### NEXT MEETING

October 2 meeting will be deferred to a date when the furniture presentation can be made. This should be arranged so that the Committee hears the presentation before a public meeting takes place.

MEETING ADJOURNED 7:31 pm.