
February 2023 Building Committee Report

The Baldwin Public Library Board's Building Committee met on Monday, February 6 at 3:00 p.m. in the Delos Board Room. Present were Jim Suhay, Melissa Mark, Rebekah Craft, Jaclyn Miller, Steve Schneemann (MCD), Dianne Schurg (MCD), Mary Kay Lancaster (MCD), Scott Wheeler (PCI Dailey), Bruce Johnson (City of Birmingham), Jeff Zielke (City of Birmingham), and two members of the public.

- Introductions were made to Mary Kay Lancaster, who will be working on the project at MCD going forward.
- The Committee reviewed the 99% completed Construction Documents, which will be delivered to PCID from MCD by the end of the week. MCD will also send PCID the 1980s Birkerts drawings they have.

Highlights:

- Landscaping Plan
 - Craft and Wheeler will find out the price of the replacement tree on the corner of Bates and Merrill, requested by the Planning Board
 - Native plantings are used in the landscape plan
 - All existing plants will be saved, if possible
 - Library prefers layering flowers around the Ram sculpture for full season color
 - MCD will look at using drip irrigation rather than heads
- Interior details
 - The outdoor concrete and indoor concrete will be the same colors – Charcoal Gray and nearly White - but with differing finishes – sand (exterior) and polished (interior). We will request to see up to 5 mockups of each color to ensure the color is correct.
 - Heat will come up from floor diffusers near the windows and the slab will be heated around the perimeter to help keep the addition comfortable
 - Glass specs for the south facing windows are the exact same as the youth addition, except for the Nanawall, which uses a different glass manufacturer
 - The entrance stairs are the dark concrete color, with stainless strips to help with visibility
 - The new study rooms will match the aesthetic of the existing rooms
- Exterior details
 - Benches on the south side will match the east side of the Youth Room addition
 - Benches on the planter will match the color of the concrete under the planter
 - The retaining wall near the front door will be designed to taper, as it is now.

- It was clarified that BPL will handle the following:
 - Café furniture
 - Working with Design Industries on the sorter design, move, and installation (MCD needs submittals and drawings from Filip to ensure the conveyor system will fit in the allotted space and the angles work.)
 - Moving and/or storing the Ram Sculpture
 - Interior signage.
 - The library will also pay for special inspections.

- The existing door to the expanded Rotary Room closet will be used and we will soundproof later if necessary. At this time, there is no concern about too much noise in the meeting room from the elevator equipment and boiler being added.
- It was requested that the connections for a second coffee machine be added to the counter area, in case of future need.
- MCD presented an updated rendering of the café space, which showed a rounded version of the wall surrounding the vending units. They believe this will offer the maximum amount of space to anyone moving through the vending area. The board will vote on this design change at the February Board meeting.
- The snow melt system was added as a delete alternative along with the skylight, recessed ceiling lighting outside the study rooms, and four small study rooms.
- Wheeler (PCID) presented a preliminary timeline for the project, which called for delivery of the Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) to the Library on April 5, 2023 and completion of construction by March 5, 2024. Discussion was held on the process of and who would be in attendance for subcontractor interviews; further discussion will take place between PCID and MCD. This could cause a delay in the timeline.

Resident David Bloom offered the suggestions that we: make the planters adjustable or movable; consider a product called glice to create a skating rink in the plaza during the winter; that we consider a place for plexiglass at the Information Desk if the need arises. He also asked about whether people can see the conveyor at the book drop from outside (yes, the initial rise of the belt; and from inside); shared concern about the flow of people from the entrance to the grand hall (there is a pillar which cannot be moved); and offered that the updated round housing in the café could be a screen, something for art, or tile.

The next meeting of the Building Committee will take place at a later date.