
November 10, 2022 Building Committee Report

The Baldwin Public Library Board's Building Committee met on Thursday, November 10, 2022 at 3:00 p.m. in the Delos Board Room. Present were Jim Suhay, Melissa Mark, Rebekah Craft, Jaclyn Miller, Jeff Zielke (City of Birmingham Asst. Building Inspector), Steve Schneeman (MCD), and one member of the public.

Further discussion of the Phase 3 café ensued. Suhay and Mark requested that MCD would create two designs – one with and one without a restroom – for the full board to discuss on November 14 at the Special Board meeting. Mark referred to her comments at the November 3 Building Committee meeting as rationale for exploring two café options with MCD. It was noted that the Board is split on the preferred design/restroom inclusion, and concerns were shared with Schneemann. MCD will rework most recent Option B to have one combination vending unit, change the orientation of the restroom and try to turn the vending unit away from the south wall of the expansion, so it is less visible.

During the invited public comment, resident David Bloom noted the following concerns and suggestions:

- If there is a bathroom, it will be next to a cafe or members of the public - it will be loud, can it be soundproof/reduced? - Schneemann says yes
- The orientation of the bathroom could still allow for people to see in; can that be addressed?
- Consider using transparent/opaque materials to allow light to come through
- Take inspiration from museum cafes and open kitchen restaurants
- Consider incorporating public art, including digital art components, and greenery or a water feature

CM Interviews were discussed, and questions were evaluated and written for inclusion in the planned Q & A with the Construction Management companies during the special library board meeting on November 14.