

CLEVELAND PUBLIC LIBRARY
Minutes of the CPL150 Ad Hoc Committee
March 16, 2015
Meeting Room Carnegie West Branch
4:00 P.M.

Present: Ms. Butts, Ms. Rodriguez, Mr. Corrigan, Mr. Seifullah,
Mr. Werner

Absent: Mr. Hairston, Mr. Parker

Mr. Werner called meeting of the CPL150 Ad Hoc Committee to order at 4:06 P.M.

After Mr. Werner's welcome to attendees, he introduced Rick Ortmeier, Principal, Bostwick Design Partnership.

Mr. Ortmeier gave a PowerPoint presentation and reviewed in detail the estimates and priorities for the Main Library Renovation Phase 2 as acknowledged by Bostwick Design Partnership and selected library senior staff.

Mr. Ortmeier defined the construction priority categories as: 1st Priority - funded by the Library's capital; 2nd Priority - interested in but only if funds are available or can be deferred comfortably until later; 3rd Priority - can definitely be deferred until later; and Donor - interesting things that we would like to see in the library for which there may be opportunities for donor funding.

The following locations were considered: Main 1 Entry/Lobby, Gallery, Brett Hall, Music & Periodicals, Open Reading, Popular & Audio/Visual, Lending/Workroom, Special Collections, Room 38, LSW 1 Entry/Lobby, CPL Exhibit Space, Security, Louis Stokes Room, LSW 1 Concourse, Indoor Reading Garden, Café, Gift Shop, LSW 2nd Floor, Observation Deck, Exterior, and Wayfinding and Branding.

Mr. Ortmeier stated that the Exterior estimates are limited to cleaning and repair of primary facades. 1st and 2nd Priorities were discussed.

Cindy Lombardo, Deputy Director, asked for a description of the cleaning process.

Mr. Ortmeyer stated that cleaning would include washing of entire exterior walls. To avoid potential damage, the surfaces will not be power washed.

Ms. Lombardo stated that the cleaning would be for walls that have suffered from exposure to bus and car fumes.

Karen Skunta, President & Creative Director, Karen Skunta & Company, described these walls are patron-facing surfaces. Walls that will not be cleaned are located on Rockwell Avenue and inside the Eastman Reading Garden.

Discussion continued about the aesthetic of cleaning some exterior walls as opposed to others and the costs involved.

Director Thomas stated that as the Library's 150th Anniversary approaches, it may be advantageous to clean the entire exterior as opposed to selected walls.

Mr. Ortmeyer recommended making the choice of cleaning the entire exterior when costs have been finalized. He also noted that exterior repairs should be coordinated with the cleaning.

Mr. Corrigan cautioned that bid specifications be accurate for this project.

Mr. Ortmeyer continued his presentation with Main Library Room 38 being converted into a staff lounge and identified this as a low priority.

The presentation continued with the Main lobby entrance priorities that included upgrading the Security Desk, uplighting, ceilings, cleaning, donor options, fire protection,

Director Thomas stated that recommendations would be brought to the Board regarding electrical and lighting system upgrades for Main and LSW. This may be under a separate budget.

Discussion continued regarding the Gallery as a donor option.

Discussion continued to Brett Hall with the following priorities: relocating staff to the Lending area; flooring, prep areas, mechanical systems, fire protection system update, technology. Ceiling restoration would be a third priority. Exhibitory would be a donor opportunity.

Mr. Ortmeyer stated that although comprehensive lighting may be done separately, it should be done in cooperation with the Phase 2 strategy.

Mr. Corrigan emphasized the importance of an artisan painter being contracted for painting for the entire project. The project should not be broken up.

Mr. Ortmeyer stated that Popular & Audio/Visual, Open Reading and Music & Periodicals are identified as second tier priorities and should remain as is. However, when Audio/Visual is relocated, the collection should be protected and secured.

Mr. Ortmeyer reviewed Lending/Workroom priorities. The staff move from Brett Hall to Lending will create additional population and circulation. Discussion continued about the Lending Desk and function.

Mr. Corrigan stated that one goal is to restore as much premium space to the public as possible and recommended that the view into the library be public friendly.

Discussion continued regarding Gallery space and function and self-checkout options.

Mr. Corrigan stated that staff space should not hinder how the library serves the public.

Mr. Ortmeyer stated that the Lending space priorities be second tier. The self-checkout and concierge space be considered a priority.

Ms. Lombardo stated that the concierge concept and service that is available in the LSW be also offered in the Main Library.

Mr. Ortmeyer stated that Special Collections would be a donor designated opportunity.

Discussion continued about Special Collections and about digitizing items.

Mr. Ortmeyer reviewed priority items in LSW Lobby and Gift Shop that included: lighting, desks, removal of the pay phone, messaging opportunities.

Ms. Skunta discussed interactive walls consisting of media and content that provides a welcome to patrons and visitors along with information on the library campus and history.

Director Thomas stated that the Security Room could house the Maker Space which can be visible from the outside.

Mr. Corrigan remarked the library is positioned in a growing downtown neighborhood and discussed the possibility of making services available to the public during extended hours.

Discussion continued about a space for community literature and information, and the overall entrance experience.

Mr. Ortmeyer reviewed priority items for the Concourse that included but was not limited to: cleaning, lighting, concierge desk reuse or replacement, flooring repair and painting.

Mr. Ortmeyer reviewed priority items for Indoor Reading Garden that included: demolition, flooring, painting, water feature, hearth, painting and lighting.

The presentation continued with the Café's priorities that included: door separation, flooring, painting, serving counter or cart allowance and lighting.

Discussion continued about a book transit system, permanent and folding walls.

Mr. Ortmeyer reviewed LSW Second floor priorities that included: demolition, wall construction, doors, glass walls, ceilings, flooring, painting acoustics allowance, raised floor, lighting and electrical infrastructure to match layout, ducts and new diffusers to match layout and to provide appropriate air flow.

Mr. Ortmeyer discussed investment options, and possible meeting spaces for The People's University.

Mr. Corrigan commented on Joan Clark's vision of staff spacing, future library materials and service trends, public accessibility, acoustics.

Mr. Ortmeyer confirmed that the LSW second floor will be furniture driven keeping the ceiling intact.

Mr. Skrtic stated that collections on LSW second floor would be integrated with the collections on LSW fifth floor.

Mr. Ortmeyer stated that the LSW 10th floor was not a priority but a potential destination because of the observation deck.

Mr. Corrigan stated that lounge space for the Friends may be an idea to consider.

Mr. Werner stated that the 10th floor could be utilized in a more inviting way and the board room may be better suited on another floor.

Ms. Skunta continued the discussion about comprehensive wayfinding that included front building vitrines. These vitrines could be interactive using weather resistant technology and would intrigue the public to visit the library.

Some discussion continued about potential vandalism of the interactive vitrine content.

Ms. Skunta's presentation on wayfinding continued with: directional signage, traditional signage, new directory signage, new maps highlighting top ten destinations, standard mandatory safety, restroom and meeting room signage that would also be in braille, fabrication, installation, street illuminated site signage, vertical and horizontal banners for the facade and rear of the building, color, banners, inside vitrines. Touch screen interactive wayfinding was not determined to be a priority.

Mr. Corrigan stated that he preferred banners and recommended that vinyl signage from all windows.

Discussion continued about investment options for wayfinding.

Mr. Werner stated that we need to focus on total project costs.

Mr. Ortmeyer stated that his team will scrutinize costs and assumptions for LSW second floor and reductions will be made.

Mr. Werner thanked Mr. Ortmeyer for his detailed presentation and adjourned the CPL150 Ad Hoc Committee Meeting at 5:55 p.m.