

Opening Remarks:

Martha Shoenthal and Kent Crandall:

Welcomed the attendees and described the purpose of this meeting as an opportunity for design input. The idea is to have a conversation about what the building wants to be, what the community is envisioning, and give the designers input. Their task will be to listen, and create a concept design and graphics to support further requests for funding. This is one step in furthering the project, but is not the end of the design process.

Martha asked all attendees to introduce themselves, as well as reminded them to please sign in.

CB Bettisworth:

Described that this will result in a concept study which is not a building design. The purpose will be to demonstrate the wonderful assets of this new facility to the City of Ketchikan to support the case for project funding from state and grant sources.

Once funded, and the project proceeds to real design, the process will include a set of scheduled community workshops, meetings and reviews for continued community input.

“This is yours, facility not ours” and must reflect your community needs.

Our schedule includes the creation of a concept or 10% complete design in the next 3 weeks. We have been given site and program. Our task is to review, analyze and focus on opportunities and constraints embodied in each.

Review of Selected Site

It is important to note that the copper ridge site is a quarry – which happens to be very similar to the site we are on, now the site of the Ferry Center and the Cape Fox Hotel, which was a quarry 20 years ago.

So it is evident that with appropriate landscaping and site planning the Copper Ridge site will become as handsome as the site of the Ferry Center and Cape Fox Hotel. One asset of Ketchikan is that plants easily grow here and they can be planted where we want them.

Opportunities-

- The building could be located be near Schoenbar Bypass, and be highly visible to passers-by. It should become a highly recognizable facility, that all in the community are proud of, and point to as an example of one feature that makes Ketchikan a great place to live.
- Should be symbol of community.
- The view from new library will be spectacular, both Bear Valley and Deer Mountain, as well as to Sunsets north west over Tongass Narrows.
- There is great exposure to the south, and access to sunlight-daylight.

Challenges:

- The south exposure-although great exposure to the sun, has is fully exposed to winter southeast storms. The design will need to design for access of sunlight while protecting sensitive areas from these winter storms.
- At present we are unsure of the micro climate conditions at this site, and will investigate potential issues of local winds, rain and snowfall that may affect this site.
- 50' elevation change across site to toe of slope at south edge of site. Allows unobstructed views of Deer Mountain, and Bear Valley.
- Need to add a landscape buffer at Copper Ridge road and adjacent sites.

Review of Program

Brad Hinthorne:

Program review-initially looks reasonable given that the space outlined is more than 2 times as large as the current facility. The will proceed with a detail review, and will note any concerns or potential conflicts as we look at moving into a design that fits the site. We understand the goal is to have a single storey facility which can be efficiently staffed.

Design Ideas

Erik Mott:

Intent is to go through ideas and get feedback; to elicit these the design team presented a group of powerpoint slides of buildings in similar settings and of similar use. The design team also presented a set of simple building diagrams indicating simple forms and structures organized in plan as a set of rectangles and in section as gable roofs forms.

- What is the appropriate structure and scale? Wood, timber, gable roof type
- Goal is to evoke a conversation of what presents best quality of program, site, and community
- Warmth of wood, tucked into landscape very durable roof and materials
- Generous overhangs, indoor and outdoor spaces-connecting the two.
- Playful use of structure, creative use of wood
- Exciting direction to take architecture with structure exposed
- Indoor/outdoor space- protective, warm up space, announce entry
- Looked at different ways to take a simple timber frame structure and how it may be scaled up to fit with program and site
- Discussed different ways to organize the structure-
- Discussed how to bring that scale to the site.

Questions from Attendees:

“Have soils/Geotechnical data been gathered?”

Response from Martha- “ Preliminary Geotech has been done- R&M did and drilled test holes. Main concern is that there is fill in SW Corner, R&M recommended extracting fill and avoid differential settlement created from a potential building foundation that straddles bedrock to fill conditions.

It may be relevant to consider the different soil conditions in the design layout of the site. I

CB: We will be reviewing these foundation options, including the use of piles versus compacted fill, versus, removal of unwanted soils. The design team will site the building, and do additional subsurface exploration, and as appropriate make adjustments to concepts.

Attendees had the following additional comments:

- Don't want too modern of a design
- Should be like Cape Fox and Discovery Center, want timbers and open.
- Indoor/Outdoor relationship is important, courtyards are good.
- Plan outdoor space for lunches, meetings, activities
- Boulder rocks grassy area
- Very comfortable variety of hang out spaces, like private and public, comfy and desks

- How do folks get to the library? There must be a drop off for buses directly at site: Senior bus, parent, all must be safe.
- Outdoor play areas of children similar to Whale Park in Sitka, or Seattle Center, brass seal animals outside as play area.
- Of concepts shown prefer two parallel forms with courtyards between with separate area of kids.
- Principal access to the building should be centrally located and accessible and on opposite ends, similar to Discovery Center.
- People cruise on Schoenbar, so there needs to be a safe pull off.
- There are a lot of walkers; should be a place to store strollers, kid mobiles, bikes out of the rain.
- The community is working hard on improved bus routes.
- Teachers are excited because the new library will be within walking distance to Bear Valley Elementary, Schoenbar Middle School and the High School.
- Provide cubbies and hooks for kids visiting
- Concerned about how to get from sidewalk to entrance?
- Libraries need multiple exits, but security of books is important
- Like Discovery Center provide ramps under cover
- Covered walkways- buses drop off- important
- Provide benches at entry
- Provide a skylight area- could save on electricity.
- Look at value natural light
- The overlook of bear valley is beautiful, can we get rid of telephone poles?
- Need accessible access near main entrance
- Playful- but pragmatic to keep cars/people safety separately
- Place the building in a garden,
- New libraries are cold and modern
- People will spend hours here, needs to feel comfortable,
- Library is an educational living room
- Good examples
 - Friday Harbor Library- Fire Place
 - Sitka Library
 - New Sutton Library
- There needs to be someplace magical for the children, Narnia closet, special
- Needs to be space for children
- Not all students have access to technology; Schools offer only limited hours
- Only 25% of students go on to get Bachelors degrees.
- Library should provide an equal benefit opportunity
- Wifi should be available throughout: Patrons will be able to check out laptops
- Small rooms that are sound proof for work on projects, study groups, conversations
- “Teenquarium”- listen, share, be visible and safe and still have some privacy “glass, openness” wood.
- Could have lowered and raised seating areas, as long as all areas are visible for staff supervision and open feeling is preserved.
- Concerned that no consideration has been given to old folks access to this site

- Note: Existing bus stops are far away from site- will need to look into adding or moving a stop to accommodate an easier public access.
- Might need to conduct a traffic study
- Seniors need easy access: need drop off right in front
- Big cedar tree that is existing on site is natural and desired. Maples are not desired. Avoid invasive plant species.
- Consider the city only has 1 building with a lawn which is hard to maintain; need to use low maintenance plant materials.
- Incorporate rain water into elements of the landscape-make a feature out of it
- Need to consider road noise; near Schoenbar-
- Quiet, library is changing, not quiet anymore, today it is lively- This library least oppressive.
- Focus isn't all downtown- our selected site is beautiful. Not everyone lives downtown, mostly tourists, we have community parks-upper downtown.
- This building needs to represent the community- family night, book signing, free space
- Large narrow schemes don't lend itself to flexibility, should have more width with movable partitions.
- Local architecture/history- like the Ferry Center roof evoking sails is good.
- VIEWS- Deer Mountain – important
- Quiet reading room
- Need to evaluate natural light in terms of maintenance and operations costs.
- Post office is a bad example of orientation, all access is south and in the weather
- Copper Ridge road improvements need to be completed; how soon is Copper Ridge going to be improved? –unknown
- Need to add sidewalks
- Goal is to have road improvements part of access to library
- Metal roofs work well with side entrances
- Tall ceiling desirable
- Mini amphitheater inside- story time, movies and projection, sitting on floor-graded, steps
- “Big cozy books” (name of manufacturer) furniture shaped like books
- Need flexibility
- Children seats on wheels- so they can be moved away
- Hooks for rain gear and a place for boots.
- Anchorage tiered seating is good.
- Vinyl Floor @ meeting space- to be used for children crafts
- Teens don't want to share space with children or adults, they want their own. Also should accommodate after hour use by teens, for special events.
- Could be open after hours, current hours are: M-W 10-3pm, TH-SAT 10-6pm, Closed Sunday, not by choice, but because of funding.
- Bathroom and meeting rooms accessible after hours
- Design Team will test toilet fixture count
- Visual control of access to bathrooms
- Want 60 seats in multipurpose room.
- Toilet-could be used by walkers- should be near entrance

- Separate for families, need changing table in men's room
- Support/Misc. -outdoor equipment-
- What is the food policy?
- Coffee cart is desirable- but removed from current program of spaces. Could operate in lobby
- Space for friends of library- has been removed from current program.
- Natural vegetation, natural lighting
- What fuel source will this facility be designed to operate on, oil/electricity combo? Is Geothermal an option?
- Local cedar material is sustainable and beautiful
- KRB- has small retail space available- like coffee place-
- Outdoor electric outlets under awning
- Very open, feel welcoming
- Need hose bibs on exterior
- Craft room- sinks along counter- if it bumps out then more than one person can use the sink and it helps processing large groups of kids or 3 people can use it, with storage unit under counter could roll out

Summary:

Martha Shoenthal:

Presented the next Steps: meet with library folks tomorrow morning for review of specific program needs. Design team completes concept; do a courtesy briefing- to city council, and proceed with funding request package.

Meeting adjourned.