



MINUTES

Downtown Library Advisory Committee (DLAC)

Thursday, October 26, 2017

6:00pm Meeting Room, Downtown Branch
224 Church Street in Santa Cruz

1. ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Steve Blair, Martha Dexter, Rena Dubin, Yolanda Henry, Nikolara Dunbar-Jansons, and Tera Martin

ABSENT: Linda Craighead, Martín J. Gomez until 6:20pm, Elise Granata, and Teresa Thomae

STAFF: Director of Libraries Susan Nemitz and Administrative Assistant Ivan Sumano-Vargas

2. ADDITIONAL MATERIALS

Updated cost models

3. ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS TO AGENDA

Add General Business item D. Communications Subcommittee Report

4. APPROVE MINUTES OF OCTOBER 11, 2017 MEETING

RESULT:	APPROVED MINUTES OF OCTOBER 11, 2017 MEETING
MOVER:	Martha Dexter
SECONDER:	Yolanda Henry
AYES:	Blair, Dubin, Dunbar-Jansons, and Martin
ABSENT:	Linda Craighead, Martín J. Gomez, Elise Granata, and Teresa Thomae

5. REPORT BY THE LIBRARY DIRECTOR

Elise started a one page summary about the committee but requires some work. The field trip with the City Council has been scheduled for November 7th and currently working on the logistics with that.

6. MEMBER REPORTS

None

7. GENERAL BUSINESS

A. Range of Downtown Library Options - Noll & Tam

Noll & Tam presented a new option for partial renovations, known as option A1, and a revised two story scheme. The new partial renovation option was looking at what does only \$23 million get us. While the revised two story option is how much it would be to accomplish everything we want from the program.



For the partial renovation to fit under the budget there would be soft cut reductions of furnishings and equipment, library graphics and signage, computers and printers, AV equipment, and public art. All those items would have to be fundraised for, which adds up to about \$2 million.

To continue to fit under the budget there would also be many cuts in improving the building. Very minimal side development and focus on accessibility. All exterior work to make a bigger gesture into the community can't be done. Only required seismic work would be done. A single skylight could be added above the existing staircase. 6-9,000 square feet of space would be shelled out, or in other words nothing would be done with that space, which would not allow for back staff areas to become public spaces. Overall no qualitative improvement for both the first and second floor. The essentials like the elevator and plumbing would be fixed, however the longevity of this option was put into question.

The revised two story scheme which would be new construction of a two story building with a roof deck, was more of an example of what a dream library could be, as this scheme has a \$26 million deficit. Susan pointed out to think of them as a comparison of a \$23 million project to a \$50 million project.

B. Development of Pros and Cons for Each Option

The Committee laid out 2 big sheets of paper for each option, wrote down, and discussed in their opinion what are the pros and cons for each option.

C. Plan for Field Trip on November 7, 2017 with the Santa Cruz City Council

Meet in front of City Hall to prepare to board the bus at 8:45am. The bus will depart at 9:00am towards the Los Gatos Library for the tour and will return back into Santa Cruz for lunch and the tour of the Downtown branch.

D. Communications Subcommittee Report

Will hold a community meeting on Sunday, November 12th from 1-3pm. The plan is to present the options to the public through a facilitated process and talk through the options with interested members of the community.

Advertise the November 8th meeting as a public meeting and move public comments to the beginning of the agenda.

City Hall to You event on November 15th at 6pm at the Santa Cruz Bible Church. The library will be manning a table and some DLAC members will be there to help answer any questions from the public.

8. PUBLIC COMMENT

Cliff Barney – Feels the new \$23 million option doesn't show what can truly be done and instead just chopped up the original over budget option. Wouldn't vote for any of the presented projects. Wants to see what wants to be done with only \$23 million and not speculate on what would be done with unlimited money.



Harvey Dosik – Complains that the Farmer’s Market hasn’t been mentioned. Claims there will be huge opposition for the garage. Believes it would be a bad idea to put another bond to go back to the voters and ask for more money. Thinks the Farmer’s Market will be a huge part of the opposition.

Michael Lewis – Believes the new A1 option is not losing the 6-9,000 square feet as presented because the current building doesn’t have it now anyways due to the back staff areas. Doesn’t want the library in the kind of environment that a parking garage would have as it’s not a safe space.

Jean Brocklebank – Have a responsibility to be conservative and put all of the pie in the sky ideas to the side. Didn’t hear a list of what can be done in the shelled out area. Wants a full list of what can be done with the A1 option.

Judi Grunstra – Since no floor plans have been presented there is no idea to how areas will be allocated. Thinks the committee is making assumptions about what programs the library can and can’t offer. Does not see the garage as a safer alternative. The shared space option will be much further away from the administrative offices.

Reed Searle – Curious to know how much of the cost is reasonably attributable to deferred maintenance. Posed the question of, what would the library be if we could do what we really wanted to do? Suggests the committee to answer that as it hasn’t been done yet.

Rick Longinotti – The parking garage shared option is cheaper because the majority of the cost is going to the parking district. Explains that to cover those costs the fees and fines for parking may go up. Claims that when those parking rates go up the demand for parking actually goes down. Cautions the committee about getting involved with this issue.

Dan Spelce – Curious about the \$23 million figure and what was the thinking when choosing that amount of money. Hopes the roof is looked into. Would like the committee to think of some of these options as phased renovations. The \$23 million could just be the foundation. Compared it to the improvements of the Museum of Arts & History.

Mark Lee – Wants to expand to the pros and cons list because he believes there is much more to add to them. Can’t believe that moving to the Farmer’s Market site is still being considered. Thinks the whole concept of 4 floors above the library is absurd.

Fred Geiger – Wonders why we are here when we’ve already spent money on saving the library in the past. Claims 3 consultants were hired by the City and agreed that a parking structure shouldn’t be built. Wants to fix the library as cheaply as possible.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Final Adjournment of the Downtown Library Advisory Committee (DLAC) at 7:55pm to the next Regular Meeting to be held on Wednesday, November 8th at 6:00pm at the Downtown Branch Meeting Room located at 224 Church Street, Santa Cruz, CA 95060