



SAN FRANCISCO PUBLIC LIBRARY

COMMUNITY MEETING NOTES: PARKSIDE BRANCH LIBRARY

Location: Parkside Branch Library

When: Saturday, December 15, 2007
2:00 p.m.

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| Attendees: | Public | 21 |
| | Elected official | 1 |
| | Architects | 2 |
| | Library Administration | 1 |
| | Branch staff | 4 |
| | Friends of SFPL | 1 |
| | <i>Total</i> | 30 |

Agenda: Welcome & Introductions – Brian Bannon, Chief of Branches & Pat Dimmick, Parkside Branch Manager
Design presentation & discussion – Kacey Jurgens, Thomas Hacker Architects
Next Steps – Brian Bannon, Chief of Branches
Friends of SFPL – Christine Leishman, Neighborhood Library Campaign
Adjourn & Exit Survey

Summary: Brian Bannon & Pat Dimmick welcomed and introduced library staff, architects, translator, and Supervisor Carmen Chu.

Kacey Jurgens explained that the Parkside Branch Library is located on public Park property at the corner of Taraval Street and 22nd Avenue. In 2003 a pre-design report was completed that studied a major renovation and also investigated the appropriate placement for a possible addition to the Library. This past fall the design team began the schematic design by taking a fresh look at the interior configuration of the renovated building. It was determined that by removing a few more interior structural walls, a much better orientation of public and staff areas would be accomplished. By shifting the new public space to the north side of the east wing a strong connection to the courtyard will improve the patrons experience while allowing the staff to view the activities in front of the building. This new public area will become much needed teen space while the existing children's area will remain in its current location. The adult area will be located on the northwest side of the Library and be arranged to allow two spaces with moveable furniture that can be used as meeting areas. The 1000 square foot addition will house new restrooms, electrical/IT and mechanical rooms. The service desks and staff work areas will be reconfigured to improve work flow and improve the working environment for the branch staff.

A new accessible ramp will be added to the front of the Library along with new retaining walls and landscape. The addition extends to the east property line and will be constructed of a

composite plank siding of a scale and color that will harmonize with the existing brick structure. A new window will be added to the north wall in the teen area creating a visual connection to the courtyard. The building will be seismically upgraded and brought up to current ADA code. The building systems will be completely replaced. The courtyard will be replanted with the appropriate native vegetation. The building will be designed to be LEED silver equivalent.

As next steps, the architects will consider the community's suggestions and work with the library staff to further develop the design. Next, the Library Commission will hold a public Peer Review of the plan on January 3, 2008 where an independent architect and another professional will evaluate the design. Also, there will be a presentation of the design before the Recreation and Park Commission.

Christine Leishman, from the Friends of the San Francisco Public Library encouraged people to join their committee to raise funds for the fixtures, furniture, and equipment for the renovated branch.

Community Discussion:

| Community Questions/Comments | Response |
|---|---|
| Where will the storage be? For chairs and such? | We are still working on a lot of the details. |
| What happened to the mystery room? | There will no longer be a mystery room. The space is used for the teen area. |
| What is a telecom room? | It is a wire closet for computers. |
| Is the teen area going to go where the bathrooms are now? Then is it larger than the other areas? | Yes. No, it's much smaller than the children's area. |
| Are there only 2 computers in the teen area? Is it because we don't have money for more? | Yes. The minimum requirement is 2 computers. In addition there will be outlets for laptops and WiFi usage. At this branch, there will be power built into the tables for laptops. |
| Why did you decide to expand to the east? | The east is Library property not Park property, this expansion gives us views to the courtyard, and the courtyard area is available for future expansion if needed. |
| Why is the children's area bigger than the teens? | The children's area has a larger collection and weekly programs with a large attendance. |
| Why change the current ADA entrance? | The current ADA entrance is not to code because the street is too steep. Whenever possible the ADA entrance and main entrance need to be the same. |
| What are you going to do about the graffiti? Paint over the red wood? | Yes. It will be stained and potentially have graffiti removal coating. |
| Why are you not going to LEED platinum? | We are building to a LEED standard. This project was not initially budgeted for LEED certification. We are building green and will incorporate many green features. |
| Can you get LEED points for the previous architects' windows and smart design of the lights of the building? And for the reuse and positioning of the building? | Yes. |
| Is there money for benches and tables for people to work outside on a sunny day? | There are fundraising efforts through the Friends of SFPL for such items. |

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| Is there actually addition of only 6 seats? | Yes. We are trying to accommodate shelving, tables, computers, ADA access and a broad range of things in this branch. |
| Is there more shelving space? | The linear feet for collection storage will be slightly decreased, however the entire collection will increase by 100 volumes because collections like AV and DVDs do not take up as much space and do not need as much shelving. |
| How many books will be in the renovated branch? | The proposed collection size will be 49,775 items on 2,582 linear square feet of shelving. |
| Supervisor Chu asked what are some of the ways we are addressing the closing of Ortega and Parkside branches? They have same timelines. | We are looking at number of options, including bookmobile and temporary services. We are purchasing a new bookmobile, and will continue to do children's programming in the neighborhood. SFPL will partner with a community agency for a location. We have a group of staff looking closely at this and planning for the closures. There will also be expanded hours at other branches near the neighborhood. |
| How long will this process take? | 6 months prior to closing we will have a clear plan for temporary services in place. |
| Do not want children crossing Sunset Blvd. | |
| Need to have a place for children to go after school. Maybe look at partnership with neighborhood schools. | |
| Why are there territorial rights to City property? | We have worked very successfully with Rec. & Park and will be moving forward. |
| The city has a master plan for each area, one of the restrictions are: park land needs to remain as open space; there cannot be any facilities on park land. | |
| Supervisor Chu commented that there is a conscious effort for departments to work together. She gave example of Ortega courtyard, in which it is very costly and inefficient for the City to tear up and rebuild library in 2 years. | |
| There needs to be an effort to partner with schools and other agencies. | |
| Will there be art in the new building? And how much art? | The library will look into this. |

Handouts:

- Floor plans
- Parkside Branch Library Renovation Information
- Exit Survey

Parkside Branch Community Meeting Exit Survey Responses 12.15.07

What were three things you heard today about the project that were most memorable?

- The interior/exterior will be preserved as much as possible
- The renovation plans
- The input from the librarians
- The input from Supervisor Chu
- More space, computers and architectural compatibility
- ADA entrances should be near main entrance
- We need art

What three issues do you consider most important to the Parkside Branch Library?

- Save the fire place – in the old days there was a real fire in there – it would be terrible to make it a bookshelf
- Maintaining the good, natural light
- Retaining the original integrity of the building
- Keep the open space open
- Security issue re: Lincoln H.S.
- Lack of space
- Lack of computers (adequate)
- Keep the mid century modernism look

What did you like most about the community meeting?

- Community input
- Presentation of the renovation plans
- Community involvement with many questions
- Viewing the plans and hearing experts
- Feeling like I have a voice
- The communal part

What did you like least about the community meeting?

- Having to listen to a lot of information all at once (but is very important at the same time)
- Meeting was held on a slow, quiet day (Sat.) – not representative of M-F
- No food

Is there anything you would like the project team to know that was not said at the meeting?

- The kids from “Just Like Mom” Preschool love to come to library every Tuesdays for special story time and movies. We are hoping to have our special library day at the police station during library renovation.