

**Wayland Free Public Library  
Library Planning Committee  
Minutes of Meeting on June 12, 2017  
Wayland Public Safety Building**

**Present:** Maureen Cavanaugh, Christine Cipriani, Tom Fay, Anne Heller, Sarah Hubbell, Lynne Lipcon, Daryl Mark, Tim Marsters, Barbara Scolnick, Rachel Sideman-Kurtz, Thom White, ex-officio: Aida Genis, Ann Knight, Director Dana Mastroianni

**Call to Order** at 7:07 p.m. by Tom Fay.

**Minutes of Previous Meetings**

The minutes of the meeting of May 9, 2017 were approved unanimously (14-0-0). Later in the meeting, the minutes were amended, voted on, and approved unanimously.

Homework for this meeting was for each member to gather three pictures from three different libraries thought to be helpful in showcasing design ideas s/he liked. If we could convey to Tappe design elements the group liked, they could use that information in their re-designs.

Favorable overall designs (listed in order of preference):

- Honan-Allston Branch Library, BPL. (<http://www.bpl.org/branches/allston.php>)
  - Committee members liked the use of natural materials (wood, slate) which added warmth. In particular, the use of wood beams to frame the windows, and break up the glass expanse, worked well. It seemed open and airy without being cavernous. Ultimately, the group felt they would be proud to have this library in Wayland.
- Pizzagalli Center at the Shelburne Museum, VT. (<https://shelburnemuseum.org/collection/pizzagalli-center/>)
  - Committee members liked the texture in the building, the richness of the materials. There is a nice balance of stone, wood, and glass. The proportions work well; there are different roof lines but it still seems a coherent building. There were similarities to the Allston Branch Library.

Other libraries with specific features:

- Colorado Springs (CO). Offered bleacher-style seating using inviting colors, textures. <https://www.google.com/search?q=colorado+springs+co+public+library+images&tbm=isch&tbo=u&source=univ&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwjaxaqU5bvUAhWFZj4KHaXKCBEQ7AkIhQE&biw=1316&bih=644#imgrc=LzTZZBJzcCjYM>:
- Columbus (OH) Children's Room. The relationship of inside to outside space works very well.
- Lake City (MN) Public Library (<https://lakecity.lib.mn.us/>). The committee liked this entrance (compress people as they walk into the entry of the building with its lower roof, explode the space out once they've entered into the building, where there is a higher ceiling).
- Orange (which state?) Library: (orange.jpeg) Light fixtures hang down pretty low which brings the ceiling down, making it feel less cavernous, institutional. The interior works well (color, choice of wood).
- Bolton (MA) Library Expansion (<http://www.boltonpubliclibrary.org/>). Committee liked the meeting room – specifically the light fixtures, choice of wood. Felt a little like Frank Lloyd Wright. Other plusses: The stairway to second floor; children's area with murals and interior windows, nook.

Favorable overall designs but with some reservations

- Dudley (MA) Library (<http://www.crawfordlibrary.org/index.asp>)
  - Design seems to work even though building is really one big rectangle. It feels like a big living room, with arched windows, lamps on the tables, and up-lighting. Drawback is that it doesn't feel like a civic building. (Same comments were made about Wayland's Public Safety Building: because it's neither traditional nor modern, it feels like nothing special.)
- South Hadley (MA) Library (<http://www.shadleylib.org/>)
  - Committee didn't like the front facade/exterior and entrance but did like the interior. Wood-slatted ceiling was a plus. Worked well from a staff perspective, allowing for different departments to cross-pollinate. Truly blond wood lacks warmth, choice of palette seemed bleak, monochromatic. Meeting room took advantage of the natural outside space.
- Varina Area (VA) Library.
  - Among other things, the committee liked: its traditional building forms; use of windows extending from wall to roof which allow much light but without an industrial feel; wood ceilings; lower ceiling height which creates cozier feel. This design won a national architecture and library award and strikes the group as demonstrating what Tappe's work could be. Not wanting to replicate Varina, we do like the uniqueness of this design.

General thoughts:

- Community feedback includes positive comments about the modern design; residents want an architecturally significant building that will draw Wayland into the 21<sup>st</sup> century.
- Current preliminary design strikes many as grandiose, not cozy, and including little to make it warm or inviting. These attributes will make the project a hard sell at Town Meeting, in addition to the price.
- The more positive energy the committee can convey around 5 Concord Road – its future, its intended use – the more inclined town residents will be to embrace the new library.
- Possibility of posting three/four design options on library or town website and allowing residents to voice their preferences. (This idea did not gain traction with the committee.)
- More work could be done around creating smaller spaces within the larger ones with different flooring, lower hanging light fixtures, wooden ceiling beams. Encouraged use of different materials to break up the visual, vast expanse of the western wall (both vertical and horizontal), perhaps using wood – not metal.
- People requested using no olive or beige paint in the interior. Also commented that interiors with wood give a warmer feel, and that warmer tones of wood are preferred than, for example, blond oak.

Committee Preferences/ Strong Suggestions:

- Relocate the entrance to the northeast corner, allowing for a double entrance from east as well as north side, feeding into one foyer. Less ideal would be to move the entrance further north from what is drawn on the existing plans, but still keeping it along the east side.
- Attempt to have a less institutional/corporate/hospital-like feel.
- Do not be constrained by the height limitations previously discussed. The committee does not like the flat roof and shed-like roof line/dormer but appreciates that it was designed to comply with the height restriction in the Zoning Bylaw.

Respectfully submitted by Sarah Hubbell.

**Meeting adjourned** at 8:30 p.m.

Documents distributed:  
Agenda  
Minutes of June 5, 2017