

**Mercer Island Community Library Remodel
King County Library System
May 8, 2014
Community Feedback Meeting Notes**

ATTENDEES

Committee Members

- Lori Robinson, Friends of the Library
- Bryan Cairns, former Mayor and original library committee member
- Lenore Defliese, Friends of the Library
- Sandi Lindstrom, regular tutor at the library
- Mindy Jeppeson, MI Preschool Association Representative
- Debbie Hanson, school age parent
- Madison Nimmo, youth representative
- Joel Wachs, Friends of the Library
- Debbie Bertlin, City Council
- Dan Grausz, City Council
- Benson Wong, City Council

King County Library System Staff

- Julie Brand
- Greg Smith
- Dri Ralph

City of Mercer Island Staff

- Kirsten Taylor, Assistant City Manager

Facilitator

- Nancy Hardwick

CHILDREN'S SECTION, MEETING ROOM, AND STUDY ROOMS LAYOUT

Scheme 2 was preferred by 9 committee members

Two committee members did not express a strong preference between the two Schemes

Children's Section

Consider reorganization of the children's section:

- Be sure to maintain the line of site into the children's section by keeping the bookshelves as short as possible. Considering locating bookshelves on the walls under the windows.
- Evaluate placement of computers near windows where bright light could be an issue
- Move seating closer to the librarian
- Limit exits out of children's section
- Idea is to keep the children's section a place where children can sit around in a comfortable setting and still be visible to parents

Meeting Room

- Blinds need to be dark enough to show movies

Study Rooms

- Import “study rooms/small meeting room” layout from Scheme 1 into Scheme 2 (although there is no need to have second storage area as storage under Scheme 2 is now in the meeting/multi-purpose room)

Vestibule

- Group favored making the vestibule as large as possible. The larger version as shown on the Schemes or leaving the doors where they are now
- KCLS staff is working to design an entry way/transition zone that will not cause bottle-necks and allow patrons to move in and out of the library easily

Friends Book Sale/Storage/Donation Bin

- Accepted as presented except that the group strongly favored retaining the Display Case

Curved Wall

- Maintain the curved wall with “Mercer Island Library” on it in some way. The idea is to keep the wood piece although the curved wall behind it does not need to be retained at its current size. Consequently, one could have a curved wall that does not protrude as much into the main library space and then have the wooden feature on it.
- KCLS shared that the current curved wall goes too far out into the room.

Skylight

- Under either Scheme, KCLS will rebuild the skylight so it will have A-frame type supports (similar to Plan B), but it will be able to support hanging lights. Will change the diffuser to let in additional light as requested. Skylight will actually be larger than it is now (extended to the south).
- All committee members agreed that current lights need to be replaced since they are beyond their lifespan
- The committee was split on the idea of hanging lights or whether to change out existing lights with new LEDs.

Additional Feedback on Layout

- Move Staff “pods” further south or even possibly where existing service desk is.
- Do not remove drive up book drop box

COLOR PALETTE AND FURNITURE

Committee was pleased with the warmer feel, softer lines, more traditional look.

Agreed that furniture design and color palettes were what committee had in mind, except for the burnt orange fabric which needs to be replaced.

- Keep or replace the teen area chess table
- Maintain current height of children’s tables. Those at Newport Community Library are too high
- Committee is pleased that all artwork currently located inside the Mercer Island library will be returning
- Encourage use of sofas or something similar in children’s area so children can be read to

TEMPORARY LOCATION

Either the Rite Aid or Congregational Church
Choose the location with the best hours, largest space

NEXT STEPS

All decisions will be made by the May 28, 2014 4pm KCLS Board meeting.
Hope to have at least drafted sketches with final decisions back to this Committee the Friday before the KCLS Board meeting.