

LINCOLN COMMUNITY CENTER PLANNING AND [PRELIMINARY DESIGN COMMITTEE (CCPPDC)]

Meeting: February 13, 2008

Present: Owen Beenhouwer, Sara Chester, Doug Crosby, Steve Gladstone, Eric Harris, Margit Griffeths, Ellen Meyer Shorb, Dilla Tingley, Tim Higgins, Carolyn Bottum, Dan Pereira

Tim Christenfeld (liaison from SBC), Architects: Maryann Thompson and Martha Foss

Next Meeting will be February 27 at 4:45 in Pod A.

The **Minutes** for the January 16 meeting were approved.

Tours of Community Centers in other Communities: Carolyn Bottum will be organizing these tours to be followed by an informational meeting at Bemis in April.

Margit Griffeths updated us on recent **Communications** in the Squirrel and up-coming on Lincoln Talk. The CCPPDC will hold another community forum, either jointly with SBC on March 13 or solo on March 20. Community Coffees will be held between Town Meeting and June.

MT Architects did a Debrief of the January 30th Forum. Feedback on each Scheme was presented and additional feedback received from the Committee and the Visitors. There was a lot of negative feedback about having parking at the former Strat's Place. That parking option will be dropped. Underground parking was suggested and MT indicated how costly and that it is usually only done in urban areas where space is really at a premium. The Library Book Sale will remain at Bemis.

Pods: There is considerable pressure to renovate the pods if they are not absorbed or torn down for the CC project. It was proposed that the cost for this be a separate article from the SBC and the CCPPD Smith projects.

Smith School Option: MT had studied and presented two options for using a newer portion including the gym and kindergarten wing. The square foot area is larger than we need and applying a renovation benchmark cost for renovation it becomes more expensive than the other options we are looking at. Other negatives: long corridors, few windows, no connection to outdoor environment and noise from playing field right outside. Carolyn Bottum said that the plans as shown would not meet the programmatic needs of seniors. The Smith gym as a meeting and eating space is too cavernous and it will be difficult for the hearing impaired to hear. Tim Higgins referenced the Campus Master Plan that rejected that site because it totally imbalances the whole campus – putting heavy concentration of use on the west side. Maintenance costs going forward will be higher. It will also necessitate that the School Project build a whole new parking lot. Playing fields is still an issue. All regret losing the beautiful Smith gym.

Memorandum from some Lincoln Design Professionals: Owen Beenhouwer responded to this memo sent to the SBC and the CCPPDC. He said that it was well written and largely addressed the school projects. Community Center focus was on looking to see if the Community Center could occupy the Smith site. There is still nostalgia for the L-shape and small scale buildings.

Followups:

- Revised Designs/Schemes - MT will reflect on our feedback and bring back four schemes that best incorporate our key planning principles (e.g., parking in the rear, emphasis on green space, southern exposure, efficient floor plan, etc.).
- Smith Option – Dan, Carolyn and Eric (apologies if I've missed anyone) with input from MT, will draft a memo that attempts to summarize the PPDC's views on the pros and cons associated with the Smith renovation option. Our goal will be to produce something that would be provided to BOS, SC, SBC and other key stakeholders, and included within the Campus Projects Briefing Book.
- Benchmarks – Carolyn will update us on development of square footage comparisons which also could be included within briefing document. She will also provide summary of thinking to date about Bemis reuse possibilities.
- Next Public Forum – There appears to be support for organizing another public forum prior to Town Meeting. We need to finalize a date and plans; consideration being given to March 13th or 20th.
- Town Meeting Preparations – The Selectmen have reserved a slot on the Town Meeting warrant for brief reports from PPDC and from SBC

Submitted by Dilla