

**CITY OF BOULDER
BOULDER, COLORADO
BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS MEETING MINUTES**

Name of Board/ Commission: Library Commission	
Date of Meeting: November 7, 2018 at the Main Boulder Public Library, 1001 Arapahoe Ave.	
Contact information preparing summary: Celia Seaton, 303-441-3106	
Commission members present: Joni Teter, Juana Gomez, Joel Koenig, Jane Sykes Wilson, Tim O’Shea	
Commission members not present: none	
<p>Library staff present: David Farnan, Director of Library & Arts Jennifer Phares, Deputy Library Director Celia Seaton, Administrative Specialist Kathy Lane, Programs, Events & Outreach Coordinator Antonia Gaona, Public Services Manager</p> <p>City staff present: Sam Veucasovic, Facilities Coordinator III, Facilities & Asset Management Michele Crane, Facilities Design and Construction Manager, Facilities & Asset Management Sam Cohn, Communications Specialist II, Communications Jim Robertson, Director, Planning, Housing & Sustainability</p> <p>Members of the public present: Dan Wood (WORKac), Spencer Martin, Laura Duncan, Charlie Hager, Sharon Procopio</p>	
Type of Meeting: Regular	
Agenda Item 1: Call to order and approval of agenda	[0:00:05 Audio min.]
The meeting was called to order and Teter asked if there were any changes to the agenda. It was noted that Agenda Item 4 was moved to follow Item 5 as Lane had a scheduling conflict. There was a nod of approval from the commission for this amended agenda.	
Agenda Item 2: Public comment	[0:00:24 Audio min.]
Spencer Martin, 1270 Rosewood 80304, noted his intention to listen to the north Boulder library presentation.	
Agenda Item 3: Consent agenda	[0:00:50 Audio min.]
<p>a. Approval of October 3, 2018 Meeting Minutes: Teter requested an adjustment from “Isaac Andres” to “Jeff Quick” in the notation regarding BLF financial matters, correcting her misstatement. O’Shea moved to approve these amended minutes, Koenig seconded, and the motion was unanimously approved.</p>	
Agenda Item 4: Library Program update	[1:25:20 Audio min.]
<p>Lane presented on CSEd week which is coming up December 1-8, an event representing extraordinary collaboration with CU, BVSD, BLF, local tech company workers, and others. All ages and abilities are welcome for this opportunity to work with technology and play with coding, and computational thinking. Gomez asked about age limit and Lane responded that teens and adults will have opportunity. Lane welcomes commission to attend, particularly the finale “mini-makerfair” in the Canyon Theater. O’Shea offered to assist with reaching out to Google in partnership.</p> <p>Next, Lane presented on BeeChicas and Pollinator Appreciation Month, sharing photos of the native bee hotel adjacent to the library on the southern creek side. The commission members received honey gathered from the roof of the library’s BeeLiterate Hives by the BeeChicas.</p>	
Agenda Item 5: Presentation: north Boulder branch library project	[0:01:50 Audio min.]
<p>Presentation on the conclusion of Phase 1 of this project. Gaona introduced the guests in attendance, both representation from the WORKac team as well as the City of Boulder FAM department.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wood spoke to the three-month intense process so far realized. Goal of immersive familiarization with Boulder and the library itself, establishing criteria used to analyze the two sites. Reading boulder as “a city in nature.” Psychological importance of mountain proximity and celebration of water inform ideas of working with gravity/waterways and natural rugged aesthetic. Callback to Olmsted’s Master Plan of Boulder, uniting city through waterfront. Also considered cultural context of community in Boulder: progressive “frontier mentality,” helm of humanist “Chautauqua Movement,” utopian ideals. 	

- Worked to engage community and library, conducting visioning sessions that clarified needs, energy, community, technology, etc. More than 250 participants engaged at events. Distilled to 14-point criteria system to compare the two sites (ie., connection to outdoors orientation, cost, pedestrian/bicycle access, ability to accommodate full program and flood protection.)
- Presented slides of hypothetical “Program Adjacencies” to join elements with their physical space – e.g., quiet space near the outdoors realm, children with playground.
- Maximizing sustainability in the building, aim toward Net Zero. Sustainable systems in the visible architecture – water (recirculation), wind (natural ventilation cutting edge sustainability), sun (energy harnessing), and earth (heating and cooling).
- Map of the two sites presented Site 1 as a privately owned, existing building located in flood plain. Site 2, owned by city, rests outside floodplain. Discussion of setback, easements, parking, access, etc. Spoke about meeting with COB Planning to discuss creation a possible access road joining 13th and 14th to eliminate the roundabout that currently sits in the middle of the plot. No room for expansion exists within Site 1. Costs comparable.
- 2.9-4.4 criteria of site scores. Strong recommendation of second site, excited to dive in to the design.

Gaona explained that Phase 2 concerns design; the WORKac architects will return in December to present design elements. Preapplication process will be shared with commission in December to kick off the Design Phase 2, concept review planned for March. Robust community engagement process planned (with design charettes, etc.); researching and synthesizing information is very important to WORKac. Gaona spoke to the responsive and thoughtful process and later check in with the community in the spring. Phase 2 runs until mid-2020 – this hopeful timeline with construction in 2020-2022.

Teter welcomed public comment; Laura Duncan spoke, introducing herself as a resident, teacher at Boulder High School, and user of library. She expressed confusion trying to “square” the public urging for outdoor space with the proposal - how will the large parking lot enhance outdoor space? Also seeking clarification around impetus behind the plan for a makerspace when the report indicated only 2% of public encouraging the endeavor: “feels like we are trying to squeeze more stuff in to get a bigger building ... I don’t get it from the numbers.” Farnan responded that he appreciated her comments. Responding to the data, he agreed that just the 5-10 people had urged the makerspace at the sampling of the public at that event – however, he referenced the previous survey conducted in 2017 wherein 25% were north Boulder residents who claimed their highest priority to be a makerspace and a larger NoBo library. Teter noted the commission’s role to speak for the library more than site and design elements. Teter assured Duncan that the public process will surely work through many of her concerns. Gaona responded that the outdoor space heavily threw preference toward Site 2 and emphasized intention to be conscientious; project’s website will announce upcoming community engagement opportunities.

Teter welcomed questions or comments about the site recommendation report from the commission.

Gomez thanked Wood for all the research and insight on the Boulder community. Referencing the community engagement when meeting at the mobile home park – as at least half of the responses were in Spanish, she wondered if these were included. Yes, these were translated and included in the report. Gomez asked for clarification around the target of LEED silver versus Gold or Platinum. Crane responded that this was a council directed mandate – LEED Silver. However, with the new threshold, though not yet adopted as policy, is Net Zero with climate goals.

Teter asks for the design elements to be sensitive to the budget restrictions of the library – she doesn’t want “bleeding edge” design to eclipse programming needs etc. Crane agreed with her, emphasizing her intention to make efficient, smart decisions around sustainability, “not just checking boxes.”

O’Shea wondered about the depth of foundation in terms of potential expansion downward with Site 2. Geotechnical survey has not yet been completed. Civil engineer on the WORKac team clarified that a basement is unlikely due to the nearby creek and water table. Wondering about potentiality of expansion- what would expansion look like. Wood: zoning similar on both sites, maximum = 15000 sq. feet. O’Shea asked about the bike path and Wood responded that the assumption is that those can be moved around. O’Shea also questioned the utility of the 28 parking spaces presented – will this accommodate all staff and patrons? Gaona noted that this is very close to code as well as the current parking space at Meadows and GRB. Peak need for 28 spaces; code specifies 30.

Sykes Wilson asked about maintenance of the outdoor space. Currently, the main branch’s playground and outdoor space is maintained by Parks and Recreation (P&R). Farnan: P&R is preliminarily interested in assisting with funds and

construction. Gaona views a good prospect of partnering particularly with the complimentary sites at the library and the newly reconstructed Violet Park.

Koenig spoke to a potential agricultural partnership with open space conservancy efforts to assist in funding a community garden space.

Teter: this looks very responsive to what we have heard. Though appearing as bigger space than Reynolds or Meadows, BoulderReads and the makerspace would be elements distinct to the north Boulder branch accounting for this need. Also noted broader community use for this space when BR is not in session. Access with site two is her main concern - how would vehicles get to the building? Gaona referred to ongoing transportation studies with consultant Fox Tuttle Hernandez; more information will be gathered by the end of the month. Careful study of average daily traffic counts and anticipated additional traffic at nearby intersections. Teter asked about the number of bike racks. Crane clarified that though the exact figure will be partially dependent on code, she can assure covered storage use as well as charging stations will be made available. Question around previously discussed WiFi options for mobile home parks. Farnan spoke to the larger city-initiated Broadband backbone project which will precede this plan and incorporate fiber.

Group thanked Wood for all his work and the update.

Agenda Item 6: Review and input on 2019 Library Commission application questions [1:44:40 Audio min.]

Koenig had sent in some possible suggestions. Teter preferred replacing existing questions as opposed to increasing the inquiries.

After some discussion, Koenig noted that he is “fine with the existing questions.” The group seemed in consensus of this approval. Teter believes the current questions successfully aim toward the goal of understanding if an applicant is aware of the responsibilities inherent in the role and how that applicant functions as part of a larger body.

The following adjustments to the existing questions were suggested:

6. Have you reviewed previous library commission meeting minutes, or documents related to the current Library Master Planning process? What thoughts do you have about recent decisions and/or plans?

Modify to account for the 2018 Library Master Plan’s recent adoption.

9. Some members of the public perceive that the library has a problem providing a safe and secure environment. How do you propose to balance concerns regarding safety and security with providing “free and open access” in a public setting?

Revise to “perceptions of unsafety” as opposed to “concerns regarding safety” to reduce implication of actual problem.

Group agreed on accepting the current questions with these revisions. Seaton will relay to the City Clerks Office.

Agenda Item 7: Review and input on 2019 Library Commission meeting schedule [1:55:47 Audio min.]

The proposed schedule included in Director’s Report. Group agreed that January 9, 2019 will work better than January 2, 2019 for the first meeting of the year. Regarding March’s retreat, group agreed to invite the new commissioner (if known by that date) to ease transition. Koenig asked about process for onboarding new commissioners; Teter explained that the chair usually reached out to the new member. Farnan noted that he does as well; he also meets with the applicants beforehand.

Agenda Item 8: 2019 library budget update and library requests for 2018 2nd ATB [1:58:50 Audio min.]

Farnan reported there should be no surprises there but invited any questions.

Agenda Item 9: Library Commission Update

[1:59:50 Audio min.]

a. Items from Commission

- i. Planning for annual letter to City Council – Koenig and O’Shea volunteered to draft this document which will likely be informed by November’s Study Session. Koenig noted he will get a draft prepared by the December commission meeting.
- ii. Commissioner update on outreach to stakeholders
 1. Discussion with EveryLibrary
 2. Visit with Pikes Peak Library District, Colorado Springs administration - Koenig spoke to the amazing building and space with several maker spaces-grappling with approach to the homeless. They’ve been a separate district for decades – totally independent of the city, very impressed with their Chief Librarian and CEO, John Spears. Their CFO, Mike Varnet (a “guru on

TABOR and Gallagher,”) also extended offer of assistance. Teter noted their fundraising structure as bifurcated into a friends group (surrounding branches, bookshops, volunteers, smaller gifts etc.,) and a foundation (which meets just four times a year to deal with “heavy hitter” fundraising).

- b. Discussion of follow up from Seter and Vander Wall response to question – none.
- c. Boulder Library Foundation update – none.
- d. City project representative update
 - i. EcoDistricts - Gomez spoke about attending the open house regarding the Alpine Balsam where 6 proposals were presented (maximizing office space to maximizing housing and everything in-between). Most people were interested in mixed use possibilities.
 - ii. Civic Area East Bookend – none.
- e. Responses to patron emails from the Library Commission.

Around 25 people planned at Koenig’s residence for the gathering of core library supporters – Farnan will kick it off with an inspirational report on the library, the newly minted master plan will be made available. Group discussed framing of the evening’s events.

Agenda Item 10: Library and Arts Director’s Report **[2:30:00 Audio min.]**

- a. Automatic renewal of library materials – Farnan expressed excitement for this upgrade. Automatic renewal on due date will occur unless there are existing holds on the item.
- b. Update on Main Library Restroom renovation – Farnan invited questions. Gomez: in the presentation a year ago, the suggestion arose to create a more private space to prevent direct view into the room, yet the gender specific bathrooms appear to still open straight into the hallway. Farnan and Phares will bring this input back to the design team. O’Shea questioned the line of sight issue he observes in the all-inclusive restroom’s plan and ways to reduce the attractiveness of this “hang out spot” behind the wall. Koenig asked for a timeframe and Farnan responded that construction is planned for the first quarter of 2019, with completion hopefully before the end of summer.
- c. Q3 Performance Measures reports – posted here: <https://boulderlibrary.org/about/>
- d. Inclusivity update – Farnan relayed Jaime Kopke’s invitation to the commission to attend “Comfort Soup.”
- e. 2019 Boulder Library Foundation grant requests – intent to ask 250,000 from the BLF – fits into the BLF goals around marketing – desire to be main sponsor or owner of festival events – e.g. CSEd week. Teter noted the importance of providing an attendance/impact report to provide to BLF. Teter: are you including the up to \$25,000 for advocacy? Farnan – if BLF indicates their desire to do that, they can take it from the total which “shouldn’t be too difficult.”

Agenda Item 11: Adjournment **[2:46:20 Audio min.]**

There being no further business to come before the commission at this time, the meeting was adjourned.

Date, time, and location of next meeting:

The next Library Commission meeting will be at 6 p.m. on Wednesday, November 14, 2018, in the Canyon Meeting Room at the Main Library, 1001 Arapahoe Ave., Boulder, CO 80302.

Commissioner Teter approved these minutes on December 5, 2018; and Celia Seaton attested to it.