

SAN JUAN ISLAND LIBRARY DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Special Meeting for the Purpose of a Design Team Charette

In person at Brickworks

(access information provided at www.sjlib.org)

December 16th, 2025

1) Call to Order: President Karen Vedder called the meeting to order at 9:10 am.

Members Present: Boyd Pratt, Karen Vedder, Barbara Sharp, John Aschoff, Cheryl Kringle

Staff Present: Laurie Orton, Anthony Morris, Kasey Rasmussen, Floyd Bourne, Melina Lagios

Steering Committee Members Present: Paul Fischburg, Beth Helstein (Steve Ulvi, Susan Hall)

Consultants Present: Sharon Khosla (Fivedot), Leah Martin and Barbara Busetti (Allied8), Vinita Sidhu and Rebecca Fuchs (SiteWorkshop)

2) New Business

a) All-Day Design Charette for Representatives of the Board, Library Staff, Steering Committee, and Consultants

Following participant introductions, Sharon reviewed the agenda for the day. She presented a review of takeaways from the October 22nd and November 18th public meetings. Over the course of those meetings, the following values for the new library project were identified:

- Intergenerational
- Sustainability
- Reflection of place
- Cross cultural collaboration
- Civic presence and placemaking
- Plan for future
- Collaboration with community partners
- Maintain and improve on what people already love about the library

The group discussed these values and their role as the DNA of the project.

Sharon and Leah led participants in an activity prioritizing extra program elements. In order, the top new program elements were: designated quiet space, auditorium, dedicated Friends of the Library space, designated computer space, and a makerspace.

Participants split into two groups to produce a first pass at a rough site design, with one group constrained to new ingress/egress points within the property boundaries, and one group using the existing easements for ingress and egress.

Break at 12:09. Meeting resumed at 1:26 pm.

Following the break, Leah shared case studies of regional libraries involved in design processes, engaged in capital campaigns, or which had recently completed building projects. She shared cost assessments, adjusting for inflation where applicable, for each. Leah noted that based on current information, we should factor in a 25-30% cost increase for building on the island. Discussion was held on steps needed to produce an actual cost estimate, which would include hiring a general contractor or estimator. It was also noted that an estimate can't be produced until we have a pricing set, which is beyond the scope of the process we are currently engaged in to produce a conceptual design.

With the basic site footprints established before the break, participants split back up into their original groups to continue working on more granular design elements for their respective site designs.

At the conclusion of the design activity, the groups reconvened to share their designs. Participants noted that although the groups created buildings of two different sizes, the basic design of the buildings ended up remarkably similar, with the biggest difference being their orientation on the site.

The board planned to arrange a special meeting for late January to review the materials the consultants will produce before the February 12th, 2026 public presentation of the conceptual designs.

To wrap up, participants came together for a brainstorming discussion on private fundraising needs and possibilities, other potential funding sources, community partners to reach out to, and stakeholders to invite to the February 12th presentation. Discussion was also held on the possibility of affordable housing on the north portion of the lot.

3) Adjournment

MSC Boyd Pratt moved and Barbara Sharp seconded to adjourn the meeting at 5:29 pm. Carried.

Respectfully submitted:

Signed by:

Karen Vedder

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Board Secretary

Signed by:

John Aschoff

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Board President

Approved: