Josephine Community Library District  
Workshop Minutes  
Tuesday, March 20, 2018, 6:00-7:20 pm  
Ben Bones Room, Grants Pass Branch Library

Members in attendance: Beecher Ellison, John Harelson, Laurel Samson  
Members absent: Jennifer Roberts, Judy Williams  
Others present: 19 other participants including Josephine County Library Foundation board members, Josephine Community Libraries, Inc. board members, and other library stakeholders.

CALL TO ORDER. The workshop started at 6:03 pm as facilitated by Penny Hummel of Penny Hummel Consulting. Ms. Hummel is contracted by Josephine County Library Foundation to engage with library and community stakeholders to develop the vision and plan that will make up Phase 1 of the Facilities Master Plan development.

JOINT MEETING OF LIBRARY BOARDS. This workshop was a joint meeting of three library boards of directors: Josephine Community Library District, Josephine County Library Foundation, and Josephine Community Libraries, Inc. In this session, participants discussed the current state of the four library branches; ideas for changes, services, and features that could be incorporated into new or remodeled library buildings; and priorities for facilities work.

See the attached meeting notes for details about the discussion.

ADJOURNMENT  
The workshop adjourned at 7:20 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Teresa Stover for Kate Lasky, Board Secretary
Josephine Community Library District
March 20, 2019
Joint meeting of Josephine Community library boards

Discussion facilitated by Penny Hummel

Attending: Mike Dawson, Teresa Stover, Sara Katz, Doug Walker, Grant Medley, Steve Swearingen, Patrick Fahey, John Harelson, Pan Tangible, Beecher Ellison, Kay Moline, Donna Robinson, Shad Shriver, Laurel Samson, Nancy Hitchcock, F. Boyd Peters, Randy Richardson, Karin Callahan, Kate Lasky, Rebecca Stoltz, Mary Walgrave, Sue Cohen

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What works well in the current libraries? What will people not want to lose?</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Location. Easy to walk here. Close to downtown.</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Cheap (for now).</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Nice children’s library.</td>
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<td>• Location is good for other libraries. Williams needs a restroom.</td>
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<td>• Children’s library at Illinois Valley.</td>
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<td>• Wolf Creek—location is central. I like the building. We did a good job.</td>
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<td>• Williams: garden in the back. Nice windows. I like that it’s portable.</td>
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<th>What would you change about the building?</th>
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<tr>
<td>Grants Pass:</td>
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<tr>
<td>• More space</td>
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<td>• Meeting room</td>
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<td>• Community spaces</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Increased square footage and footage</td>
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<td>• Accessibility</td>
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<td>• Parking is terrible.</td>
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<td>• Deferred maintenance</td>
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<td>• Systems are outdated: carpeting, heating, wiring, mechanical.</td>
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<td>• Overall layout is outdated and inadequate</td>
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<td>• We need a coffee shop</td>
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<td>• Ownership</td>
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<td>• Selling us to the community/marketing/people who aren't part of the district, have more than just a library: music hall, meeting center, small theater</td>
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<td>• Have a building that serves the whole community: Riverfront and downtown. Nice to tie together. New library on north end?</td>
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<td>• More natural light</td>
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<td>• Good outdoor space</td>
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<td>• Efficiency: add a 2nd or 3rd or 4th story and put offices upstairs.</td>
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<td>• Better bathrooms!</td>
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<td>• Teen library</td>
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<td>• Cramped and Inadequate staff space at Grants Pass.</td>
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<td>• More meeting room space.</td>
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<td>• More delineated space. Kids room is noisy and to have quiet spaces.</td>
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• Business productivity space…. computer resources longer periods of time, printer, scanner, telephone, fax.
• Nice to have: secondary businesses like a coffee shop or café.
• Could we plan with city—i.e., if there is a commerce area?
• Now in children’s area—good to expand programs such as robotics, carpentry,
  • Flexible space. Expansion of Library of Things.
  • Commercial kitchen?

Illinois Valley:
• Improve energy efficiency, plumbing. Better use of space around the building.

Williams:
• Size, bathroom, needs new building.

Wolf Creek
• Landscaping area. Opportunity for outdoor events attached to the events.
• Drainage problem in parking lot. Concrete surfaces outside—gets to be a jungle.

What services or features would you like to see incorporated into a new library?

• Wolf Creek: cultural aspects: natural history of area be reflected in library collection. Good way to build partnerships with county parks.
• Williams: bathroom, better shelf space, FOL space. Place where staff can have a space. Storytime area. Children’s section. Garden at Williams is really a reflection of the community. Nice to plan it but work with the community and build it up year after year.
• All should offer community outreach and cultural inclusiveness.
• Teen and young adult programming. Space for that is a little odd.
• It would be great to have multiple multipurpose rooms. Quiet meeting space.
• Meeting room

Are there libraries you have read about or visited that have features that would improve this library?

• Adult fiction. Quiet zone.
• Art displays. 3 dimensional. Mixed into the building itself.
• Signage is by color and icon vs. words but it is a super-efficient way of directing traffic.
• Children’s library: they integrated stuff for parent’s magazines and materials?
• Storage space.
• Ones I really like are in the center of the community. People aren’t there just for the library, it’s a community center.
• People don’t walk by this facility; it would be better to be somewhere with more foot traffic.
• Thriving downtown. Mix of tourists and local people.
• Dutch Bros. bought land and have big plans; will change downtown.
• Salt Lake City –walkway inside the building with stores around it, flower shop, etc. Top is a rooftop garden that they rent out for events.
• Mill Valley CA: grove of redwood trees, creek nearby—tables were made of high-quality wood.
• We need a children’s branch in the Redwood area.
• Moveable shelves in children’s area—can be reconfigured to fit.
• Make the spaces as flexible as possible.
• Return slot is convenient for volunteers but needs to be in the lobby. Outside book drops attracted unwanted materials.
• Livermore CA—2nd highest density of PhDs. Library is part of a civic center and provides great service.
• Space for a piano or musical instruments. Performances.

What are the issues that you consider the most important to address?

• Fix Williams first
• For the most bang for the buck, put money where the most use is (Grants Pass)
• Equity and inclusion issue—there may be fewer people using Williams, but we need to serve them well. Maslow’s hierarchy of needs. Their building represents the lowest level.
• Making a decision and moving forward with this business when our lease ends Jan. ‘21. It needs to be addressed.
• Other two branches are in better shape. Williams is the most neglected. Wolf Creek is good.
• Illinois Valley has security issues—leaks in the roof, plumbing backs up. Deferred maintenance. But we own the building.
• Safety is first
• Access is also important
• Community space is where other things can be done.
• This is a 1959 building and when you redo it, take into consideration next 50 years of technology.
• Makerspace—community college and city are partnering so best not to duplicate. Is Dutch Brothers creating conference center? Churches have space available. AllCare has new building with meeting room space.
• This room (Ben Bones) is overused.
• Children’s library partners who provide storytimes for sensory children: now that we are open more hours, how can they still provide programming not while open?

Words that describe the new library:

• Vibrant
• Full of life
• Attractive
• Open
• Inclusive
• Well planned
• Water features
• Coming together places
• Relevant
• Energetic
• Sustainable
• Inspiring
• Place for volunteers
• Fun
• Accessible
• Place when visitors visit they go MY GOD! In this little town?

Other comments:

• Comfortable chairs. We need more seating.
• Great if teens have input.
• Wolf Creek: when it offered 24/7 Wi-Fi access, it was wonderful mix of local benefit and travelers passing through. It attracted a diverse group of people.
• Make the online catalogs more accessible—on shelf ends vs. centralized now.
• Keep up to date.
• Putting in extra conduit for the unknown.
• More plug ins.
• Bar with people who use their laptops.
• Electronic resources: we have them but we need to sell them.
• Conduct a PR campaign for electronic resources, or have them open on workstations so that people can see them.
• I would hope that it would fit with character of Grants Pass, both architecturally and general feel. Pacific Northwest. Bend has a consistent feel.
• It’s important to keep the feeling that you’re going to see your friend.
• Financial model doesn’t function without the volunteers.
• We are self-aware enough to work with our communities. We don’t have to be the horn or the drum, we can be a support role. We can do that very well. In all our communities, be a part of the orchestra.
• There is enough financial horsepower in the Williams community to build what we need to build. But engaging them is going to be important.
• Divide between city and county. Feeling like underdogs. A lot of poverty here. We have this divide between wealth and poverty. We experience it as a disconnect between those who have wealth and those who do not.
• People move here to retire, they have no investment in schools.
• We can go to the community to ask what they want, vs. telling them what they need. We’ll have more involvement if we collect that information. Make people feel good and not shameful.
• People here are not cheap. Independent thinkers. They need to be encouraged to join the cause.
• There is a strong volunteer culture.
• We have a vocal group of naysayers. Most don’t live in the district.
• Scar of trust between county and city and not something that can be healed overnight. Old issues.
• Library has done fantastic job of separating from county government.
• I think there is enough positive energy in Josephine county that naysayers can be ignored. We don’t have to spend energy on them.
• We will print B&W instead of color to fit community perception. Overall impression of frugality.
• We’ve been getting by for so long...we’ve lost a lot... we need prompts about what possibilities are.
• There’s a city housing committee that’s working to increase housing stock. I would recommend that we consider putting a couple floors of apartments on top. Housing can pay for library.
• Wolf Creek: Farmer’s market is one of the oldest. Having the library relate to that. County Park system. Public access to Rogue River. Day use fees. The river is key to people’s consciousness of the area.