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**Minutes**  
**Covington Library Expansion**  
**Community Meeting #3 (April 20, 2005 7-9pm)**

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1. We were welcomed by Mary Pritchard, Covington library expansion Steering Committee chair and Milenko Matanovic of the Pomegranate Center
2. Milenko led us through a brief review of our process to date including:
  - Overall project timeline
  - Ground rules
  - Community process goals
  - A review of the Community Meetings #1 and #2 findings (design elements, key concept spaces and capacities, assumptions, common themes from small group designs)
  - A review of the goals for the current community meeting
3. Pomegranate Center led a discussion about “questions of balance” which have been raised during our community meetings. These are potential conflict areas, where we must each remind ourselves to attempt to find win-win solutions that benefit the whole community of library users:
  - Coexistence of multiple groups and needs in one library
  - Quiet vs. gregarious needs/uses
  - Traditional library model vs. the “heart of the community” vision
4. Our first action for the night was to review the favorite 10% of pictures from our previously conducted visual survey. The community then assessed the following common themes among the visuals that they had liked:
  - Inviting (open and airy) spaces
  - Both floors and ceilings held elements of color and interest
  - Colors were contrasting yet complimentary
  - Designs combined comfort with function
  - Elements were felt to give movement to the spaces
  - Designs circled around focal points
  - Art was integrated into the design
5. Tom Hille then led us briefly through four adjacency diagrams prepared by Integrus architects (based on the drawings previously completed by the community during the second meeting, and adapted based on new information about budget and site restrictions). Milenko introduced possible themes for establishing indoor/outdoor connections, integrated artwork, place making and way finding. These included:
  - Signifiers and sentinels: a streetside signal to the community that the library is there, with continuity into and possibly through the structure itself
  - Gateways: establishing connections between indoor and outdoor spaces, and even interior spaces
  - Gathering places: outdoor spaces extending the capacity of the library into the surrounding setting

6. Small groups gathered to assess the pros and cons of the Integrus diagrams and possible outdoor spaces. Unanimously, all five groups preferred plan A.1. Additionally, the following observations were made:

PROS:

- Quiet zone towards back (3 groups)
- Multipurpose/meeting rooms toward front
- LOTS of outdoor amenities (2 groups)
- Children's area connected to outdoors (2 groups)
- Deli-style café in front, improving entry with off-hours access (4 groups)
- Café adjacent to multipurpose and meeting rooms (2 groups)

CONS:

- Café in the middle of the library; too close to stacks (plans B and C)
- Teens off to the side (plans B and C)
- Traffic patten in front:

NEW IDEAS:

- Installing some sort of fountain or movement to the pond to prevent stagnation and bugs in the summer
- Limiting access to the forested area so that one must pass through the library to enter (child safety)
- Teens could run the used book bookstore
- There should be covered waiting area (seating) in front of library; could coincide with café patio
- Build in chess set (Like Crossroads) indoors or out

7. Finally, community members assessed a few last issues. First, groups ranked possible library expansion elements according to importance. Then we surveyed existing areas/features from the library that folks really like and want to keep. Finally, Pomegranate Center asked community members to complete an evaluation of community process.
8. Stay in touch! If you are receiving this, your name has been added to a list of interested community members. You will receive updates on the expansion as KCLS moves forward with the project. Pomegranate Center will be presenting findings from your community meetings to the Covington Chamber of Commerce on June 9<sup>th</sup>. Additionally, there will be a community open house scheduled in late summer for you to meet with the architects and see how the design has evolved.

If you have additional comments or concerns, please contact:

Milenko Matanovic at [milenko@pomegranate.org](mailto:milenko@pomegranate.org) or

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