Jones Library

43 Amity Street, Amherst, MA

Building Project Website

Newsletter Pause

Due to vacation schedules, we will pause this Newsletter until the week of July 17th. During this break, you can find information about the project on the Building Project Website. All meetings of the JLBC are recorded and will be available on the Amherst YouTube channel (all recordings of meetings for the week are posted on Fridays).

Project Update

The Designers presented a revised set of schematic designs to the Design Subcommittee and the Civil War Tablets Committee on June 24th. The new schematics include a dedicated gallery space for the Civil War Tablets, removal of the elevator in the 1928 original building, and 3 options for gender-inclusive bathrooms. The Civil War Tablets Committee will be appointing a curator, William Harris, who will continue to work with the Designers through Design Development on the gallery space.

The Designers also provided an initial cost estimate on the alternate exterior materials (brick, slate, and Centria). Based on the current marketplace, brick is the most affordable material ($40-$42/sqft), slate is the most expensive material ($120-$130/sqft), and the Centria falls in the middle ($75-$80/sqft).

Due to the current high cost of slate, the Designers provided a new option, Arriscraft Shadowstone (shown in the image) currently priced at $50/sqft. This material could be used in combination with brick to create a similar look to the slate and brick rendering but at a much lower cost. The Design Committee requested the Designers proceed with a cost estimate using brick and Arriscraft Shadowstone, as well as an alternative for all brick.

Upcoming Outreach Events

Community Forum, July 6, 7 p.m. Virtual meeting to review the latest schematic designs.

June 26, 9 a.m.-12 p.m.

Amherst Farmer’s Market

Share a Comment in any of these formats

info@joneslibrary.org

Library Images - add your comments

Submit a Comment Form

Ask a Question on AmherstTalks

Reminder: Public Feedback on Schematic Design closes July 1st.
Other Important News

On July 6th at 7 p.m. the Outreach Subcommittee will hold another Public Forum to present the latest updated schematic designs and collect community feedback and questions. Comments and feedback collected at the event will be forwarded to the Design Subcommittee and JLBC to review as we move into the Design Development phase of the project.

Community Outreach Update

As of June 22nd, the Library has collected an additional 279 comments from the community, for a total of 1,999 public comments!

The JLBC voted on the second round of public comments in their meeting of June 21st. Some comments involving furnishings, technology, and landscaping were tabled for the Design Development phase and some comments were general and did not require a vote (e.g., “These projects are cool!”). Of the remaining feedback reviewed, 90% were either already contemplated in the current design or will be sent to the Designer for consideration to see if they can be incorporated.

Coming Soon!

Join us for a walking tour of the exterior of the Jones Library building. With a copy of the proposed renderings in hand and the building before us, let’s have a conversation about the specific elements of the current and proposed building design that you love or that may not be your favorite. This is also an opportunity to ask questions or give feedback about specific elements of the exterior design.

For example, did you know the elliptical fanlight window salvaged from the Whipple House (shown in the image) was reused in the 1928 library and then incorporated in the 1993 addition’s west wing? Do you know where it will be placed in the new addition? That has not been decided yet. Where do you think it should go?

Document Links

- schematic designs 6/24/22
- schematic designs 6/21/22
- schematic designs 5/27/22
- schematic designs 10/08/20
- building program
- projected timeline
- exterior material options
- renderings

Upcoming JLBC Meetings

- Jones Library Building Committee
  - July 5, 4:30 p.m.
- Design Subcommittee
  - July 8, 9 a.m. discussion of round 3 of public comments
- Outreach Subcommittee
  - July 19, 4 p.m.