

Library Project Update

Thomas Memorial Library

Have you heard about the proposed renovations? Are you curious about what the proposed renovations will look like? Are you wondering what it will cost?

Background

After a lengthy study and several focus group sessions conducted over a three-year period, Casaccio Architects presented a preliminary design for a new library in the Spring of 2011. While the architects' initial concept helped define the space needs and provided an opportunity for community feedback on the project, many folks in town supported a design that preserved as much of the existing buildings as possible.

Current Status

Casaccio returned in November of this year with a design that has been well received by the Trustees and Foundation Board members, the Town Council, the TML staff and members of the public.

The new design preserves the Pond Cove School and the green space that was so well received in the earlier renderings, while adding a new two-story addition. The building, estimated to cost \$8.5 million, has a smaller footprint but provides an open floor plan for future flexibility, opportunities for upgraded technology, adds flexible meeting space and may even offer a small café area. Most importantly, the new design preserves the historic essence of the town center while supporting library needs well into the future.

What's Next?

Since the library renovation project will require close to \$3 million in private funding, Demont Associates has been hired to assess the level of community support. Their results will be available in February of the upcoming year.

Need more?

Look on the website at www.thomasmemorallibrary.org or **call ...?**

The TML Board of Trustees has been charged by the Town Council with educating the public on an ongoing basis about the status of the library, and to review and plan for the future of library needs and services and with educating the public on an ongoing basis about the status of the library project. Complete copies of all studies and assessments are available on the Library website, www.thomasmemorallibrary.org.

