



48 Hart said she'd met with Ashley Laux, Director of the Center for Community Engagement at the College,  
49 and they talked of the ways the College and Library can work together, and Laux reminded her of the  
50 program where Middlebury College professors can connect students with local groups to work on real  
51 life projects. She said we might consider having a class help once the matrix is developed, and Laux will  
52 help her connect with the right class.

53  
54 Hart said she's tried to think about how we can partner with the College on this project, and the two big  
55 things she's come up with is childcare, which the library can't provide, but they do provide a lot of  
56 structured programming for middle and high school students, so providing more space for that age  
57 group might help. She said they've also discussed the library as a "civic center" and a potential space for  
58 conflict transformation which the College just got a huge grant to address over the next few years, so  
59 Laux has invited her to attend some meetings at the College to learn more about that. Gish said the  
60 College has received \$25 million to be used for conflict transformation, so this is a great opportunity for  
61 Hart to find out what this might mean for the community at large. McVeigh pointed out that this \$25  
62 million was also for the Middlebury College campus in Monterey, California that has already been doing  
63 work on this issue.

64  
65 Hart said she hears from Addison Independent reporter John Flowers regularly to see if we're at the  
66 point to do a story, and she thinks we're almost ready to let the community know about the matrix  
67 they're working on. Gish said he'd be happy to reach out to Flowers but doesn't want to become the  
68 spokesperson for the project like he was with the Downtown Bridge Project. Harris said if you put out  
69 the word that there is a matrix, then people are going to want to know details and those aren't there  
70 yet. She said the margin for error is greater if you have nothing specific in mind, so the more you have  
71 people tossing out ideas, the more this Team will have to work with, so we're kind of at a critical point.

72  
73 The Team discussed the timing for getting the information out there and the danger of having ideas get  
74 out in the public too soon and the format for taking the matrix to the community for comments, keeping  
75 in mind that people respond better when they have something specific to respond to.

76  
77 Hart said they could look at how they want to do the scheduling at their next meeting. Harris said  
78 Christine Graham had mentioned starting private fund raising in September and they had discussed  
79 having a public forum in September as well. She said when we get to the point to have a complete  
80 space program it would be a good place to start to form in people's minds what the library could  
81 become. Hart suggested having some form of public meeting in July and have Flowers do an article  
82 towards the end of June. Gish pointed out July and August is when people are having vacations, so felt  
83 maybe September was a better goal. He said this is a critical piece of this project, so it makes sense to  
84 take time to get it right.

85  
86 Square Foot Program Update

87  
88 Hart said they were able to obtain CADD base and mechanical drawings for the library and the additions  
89 and for the past few weeks Harris been coming to the library to see how much space they currently use  
90 for their various uses and taking measurements and updating the CADD drawings we have since there  
91 have been changes to the building since these drawings were originally done. She said Harris has  
92 figured out how much space they have and how it's carved up.

93

94 Harris said they started on the main level, and the gross square footage is 6,390 square feet. She said  
95 the net, usable, square footage that is “habitable” (not including wall thickness, bathrooms, corridors,  
96 stairwells, storage or mechanical space) is just over 4,000 s.f. making the difference between the two  
97 2,200 sq. ft. or about 37%, which is up in the area you never want to be. She said that has to do with  
98 the kind of building this is with thick walls and columns, but you need to keep this in mind when building  
99 a new building.

100

101 Harris said one thing she noticed while she was at the library, was even though the library might  
102 designate a certain area the “quiet room”, people are going to go where they feel comfortable. She said  
103 while she was there, there was a bank closing going on and back in the stacks was a father trying to do a  
104 job application on the computer, while the wife nursed the baby beside him, so she said that whole  
105 front section of the library seems to be the community lounge and people will use it for what they need,  
106 so they need to think of it as a community resource. She said people will use the space as they chose to  
107 use it.

108

109 Harris said the staff is getting extremely cramped and the public doesn’t see that, and described areas  
110 where things are stored simply because there isn’t enough space. Doyle-Wilch said when she  
111 interviewed the staff, none of them had a place to store their boots or coats in the winter and they  
112 didn’t even have space to work without having to spill out to another area.

113

114 The programming document was discussed and the way it could be shared with the public and various  
115 diagrams that would be most helpful. McVeigh asked Harris what she thought the next steps were.  
116 Harris thinks they’re pretty much on target for all the information gathering and she will attempt to take  
117 this information and establish an Excel spreadsheet they can assign numbers to, so she’s looking at  
118 some time in early June. She reminded them they’ll be looking at net square footage, so they will then  
119 need to look at the overhead spaces, and that will determine if we’re looking at staying in the existing  
120 building. Harris said this is called “Pre-design” and if you don’t do it upfront, it’s very painful to try and  
121 do later. Hart said this really needs to be done prior to doing the work on the matrix. Gish said the  
122 program is aspirational and is not necessarily what the end result will be, and Harris said that was  
123 correct. She said it’s hard to design for the space the library will need in coming years, so build the  
124 space for what you need now and make sure the spaces are flexible.

125

#### 126 Matrix Criteria Selection

127

128 Hart said she and Harris had taken all the items and broken them down into 5 categories: Pillars,  
129 Building Program, Site Location, Community Alignment and Funding Viability, and some had been  
130 eliminated because it was covered in programming. Harris said each one of these 5 categories are  
131 numerical and they all need to add up to 100.

132

133 They discussed the use of any basement space in the new design, and if possible, there would not be  
134 any need to have “humans” in there, but it would be used for storage or mechanical space. McVeigh  
135 said the previous building committee felt very strongly they needed to get the children’s space out of  
136 the basement.

137

138 McVeigh said the category entitled “Pillars” is broken into the criteria the last library building committee  
139 developed, and the Team felt this category needs to be divided up and added to the other categories.

140 McVeigh said the items listed in “Pillars” are all underlying principles, so he wanted to be sure they  
141 weren’t lost in the process.

142  
143 The ranking of the matrix was discussed, and it was pointed out that the matrix simply creates a range to  
144 help narrow the decision down.

145  
146 Following additional discussion, it was decided that Hart would work on reducing some of the categories  
147 and do some editing and release it for use at the next meeting.

148  
149 Funding

150  
151 McVeigh said Team member Ken Perine had not been able to be present at the last two meetings, but  
152 had inquired when the money side of this project would be discussed. McVeigh said the last plan came  
153 in at \$9.6 million and was considered to be too expensive back then, but in today’s climate that same  
154 project would be more like \$11 million. He said Perine’s point is are we over-reaching already what the  
155 Town may not be able to afford. Hart said their fund-raising expert, Christine Graham, has advised her  
156 on how to establish a capital fund raising program, and when we get further into the process, she will do  
157 a feasibility study on how much private fundings she thinks could be raised, which will help us focus on  
158 how much else needs to be raised. She said we need to be looking at making a list of who might be  
159 potential donors and asked the Team to come up with names and email them to her. She said no one is  
160 being asked for money now, this is just to establish the list.

161  
162 Hart asked if they knew of anyone who has grant experience to please let her know, because they’ll  
163 need help finding out all the grants that are available and help deciding which ones to apply for. She  
164 said the grants she’s familiar with say the money can’t be used for capital projects. Gish said that may  
165 be true for library grants, but there are grants out there for public spaces.

166  
167 Next Meeting

168  
169 The next meeting of the IIsley 100 Project Team will be Thursday, May 26, 2022.

170  
171 Respectfully submitted,  
172 Beth Dow