

New Calendar House Building Issues January 2017

The Calendar House Staff and Membership have identified the following issues which need action:

- 1) **Handicapped Parking**. - Although meeting the letter of the law, the number of allocated handicapped parking spaces is inadequate.
- 2) **Parking space during construction** – There is a need to persuade DePaolo parents to not use the reduced space parking lot during construction. Additionally, the Hobart street access will be closed creating dangerous traffic issues at school closing time.
- 3) **Coat racks** – Where will they be?
- 4) **Serving hatches from Kitchen** – Need two serving hatches – one each side of the main hall divider.
- 5) **Skylights to be removed** - Despite agreeing to remove the skylights at the 16th November meeting, the bid drawings still show them. Are they still in the cost estimates?
- 6) **Tech room power, ethernet and video connection points** – The connection points needed in the Computer Lab (Tech 2) walls are not on the drawings.
- 7) **Generator status** – The emergency generator size, replacement and cost issues do not appear to have been determined.

Handicapped Parking : Insufficient Accessible (Handicap) Parking Spaces

During multiple meetings of the Building Committee, the Calendar House Committee Member and the public representatives, have advised that the architect's rendering, although meeting ADA requirements, does not provide for enough handicap parking spaces for our Seniors. Two spaces were recently added, which brought the total to 8 spaces, including 2 van accessible. The existing building currently has 10 spaces which are not enough. It has been advised that more could be added, but they cannot be policed, which seems to be an anomalous situation.

The National Council on Aging, (NCOA) has identified that the number of handicapped spaces is a universal problem for Senior Centers. Architects for Senior Centers do not appear to realize that most Seniors, sooner or later, become walking handicapped.

The Membership Association advocated taking out the landscaped area in the front of our building to the far left. This would provide more handicap spaces, plus bring them closer to the front entrance, as well as the entrance to the dining hall. Four of currently planned spaces are to the far right, on the side of the building, a significant distance from the front entrance. The Membership was told it would be too costly to put parking in that area, instead of landscaping. Also, Planning and Zoning had already approved the proposed parking lot concept. This is unfortunate, because we do need more handicap spaces.

Parking space during construction

Currently there are many occasions when the parking lot is heavily used by the Calendar House members. The situation becomes critical when the DePaolo school classes finish for the day as many parents park in the lot with many actually waiting in the access paths rather than using any available parking spaces. This situation becomes even more dangerous as many cars use the lot as a turning route and drive all the way through at excessive speed.

During the upcoming construction, there will be less than half the currently available space and there will be times when not all the Calendar House members will find an available parking space. The Hobart street access will be closed forcing all traffic to use the Pleasant street entrance. Add the DePaolo parents with their current behavior and we have a recipe for injury.

Coat racks

The published egress analysis identifies a possible 626 public using the new building with 207 in the multifunction room alone. In winter, these 626 people will probably arrive wearing coats, but there appears to be no allocated space for coat racks. Coats draped on chairs are a recognized tripping hazard and needs to be avoided.

Serving hatches from Kitchen

Each of the two areas in the Multifunction room need a separate food serving hatch connecting to the kitchen to avoid server foot traffic through the connecting doors.

Skylights to be removed - Despite agreeing to remove the skylights at the 16th November meeting, the bid drawings still show them. The skylights were removed to reduce cost, to remove the leakage problems seen in the current building, and to facilitate installing solar panels on the roof at a future date. It is important that the cost of the skylights is removed from the estimates.

Tech room power, ethernet and video connection points – The connection points needed in the Computer Lab (Tech 2) walls are not on the drawings.

A minimum of 42 power sockets (21 doubles) will be required, mainly at appropriate locations in the wall, but a minimum of 12 (6 doubles) will be required on the west side of the student “U” layout to service devices which are not against the wall. A socket is also needed for a ceiling mounted projector

Wired Ethernet service outlets are needed to a minimum of 22 positions, mainly located near to the power sockets.

A VGA/HDMI video feed is required from the Instructor position via a splitter to 5 monitors each mounted between pairs of student machines, and the ceiling mounted projector.

All the wall mounted power sockets and Ethernet connections should be above table height (about 40 inches above floor level) adjacent to the device it serves. Each of the power outlets should be capable of taking a surge protector device with USB power outlets. The power, Ethernet and video cables to the west side of the student “U” will need to be below table height or in the floor.

Generator status – The emergency generator size, replacement and cost issues do not appear to have been determined.