

The HBAGGR's New Housing Center Update

Open Houses were held at the HBAGGR's New Housing Center on October 25 and November 4. Visitors enjoyed beverages and hors d'oeuvres, along with guided tours of the building. For many, these Open Houses were the first opportunity to view the inside of the new building. Kathy Barry, owner of Home Life Interiors and a member of the New Building Committee, is overseeing the selections of interior finishes as well as soliciting and coordinating donors of finishes and supplies. In preparing sample boards for the committee to review, Kathy looked to residential design trends as well as to the commercial environment. This year, Neocon, the annual commercial design show held in Chicago, featured many of the same colors and finishes that we are seeing in residential design and have chosen to use in the new building. After reviewing several possible design themes, the committee decided on an earthy color scheme, incorporating shades and tones of brown, black, orange-reds and green.

The overall feel of the building is very residential. The interior design actually begins on the outside of the building. Green-tinted and framed windows enhance the red brick exterior, and the interior finishes blend the look from the inside out. Flooring was one of the first selections, and much of the building will feature wood floors of many finishes and designs. The Library floor will be Santos Mahogany, a warm, dark reddish brown and the lower lobby will be Brazilian Cherry with a decorative inlay (the Bookstore flooring has not yet been finalized). The foyer, all bathrooms, and the staff kitchen will feature tile floors in a range of neutral tones. A loop carpet with black, brown and gold tones will flow throughout the main level. A new flooring product, manufactured by Forbo, will be installed in the banquet kitchen. It is actually a reintroduction of linoleum, but with a permanent anti-bacterial finish. The rust and brown tones of the linoleum will blend beautifully with the cabinets and countertops. Raised panel cabinetry adds to the warm and inviting style of the building, with natural cherry finishes in the public areas and antique white in the staff workroom and banquet kitchen. Countertop selections include granite, solid surface in acrylic and quartz and some laminate, all in earthy tones. All countertops have an organic look, even those that are not actually granite! The interior walls are painted in warm neutrals, again mirroring residential trends. The conference

rooms in the lower level posed some particular design challenges, as the space will also be available for use by the general public for receptions and meetings. A carpet with a patterned vine was selected for this space, and the search is in progress for a donor of chandeliers for this area.

The "Use A Member" motto of the HBAGGR is being carried out in the construction of the New Housing Center. A list of the many members that have contributed labor and materials for the building can be found on the HBA website at www.hbaggr.com. **WMRR**

The committee is still soliciting donations both cash and in kind regarding the building.

Still needed: Cabinets for Library • Cabinets for Bookstore

• Base for granite tabletop in conference room • Blinds

• Windowsills (granite or solid surface) • Lighting (chandeliers) for Banquet Room



Exterior of New Housing Center



Swatches and colors for Lower Level



Swatches and colors for Main Level



Swatches and colors for Level 2

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