Concept for My Final Project for Wats 3030-01

       I have put together a few wireframes to illustrate what I am planning to do with my final project. The first two wireframes illustrate how the page will look when it first loads and the second will illustrate a few of the dynamic changes that I plan to use Javascript to make happen on the page. I will be using Wordpress to create a dynamic website that will be able to provide the visitor with the capability to view things, purchase things, get directions, etc. I think it would be cool to have the ability to have the site be customized but that it had a blog feel to it so it was more of a reading site with a few functionalities that were for interacting unlike my site for the other class which will be an iteration of this but more focused on the functionalities of javascript in a more traditional site style and less of the set up of a Wordpress/web app based website.

       I chose to do a re-creation of the Seattle Aquarium website. When I went to their site I thought that there was too much going on on the homepage and it could be laid out better. I was not too fond of the top navigation bar with the dropdown and the bar takes up too much space at the top of the page. I would have used the aquarium's logo as the top bar with a smaller navigation bar or have the navigation bar slowly show and hide. I think that the information needs to be more structured and better organized. I chose to have the login box remain on the front page rather than having the user navigate away from the homepage to sign in. I plan to use javascript to have the picture in the carousel pop out. Also I plan to use javascript to get the comments to show and hide on the photos from social media. Also I will try to get the live webcam to work with the show of the icon of live web cam but that would be a stretch goal for me.

       I think that Wordpress could be a good route to go in creating this site because of the built in functionalities that Wordpress provides. I think because most of the things the user will be doing will be viewing and navigating the information of the site. The only part that I will needto investigate more into will be how to create the functionalities that I would like to have i.e. validations, creating accounts, ticket purchasing, search functionalities, etc.

       The things that I did like about the page were that the sidebar with the icons was very nicely designed and would be better as a mouse over to extend out. I also liked the way the Facebook and Instagram photos were used in the carousel and that the comments could be displayed.

For my information architecture document I was focusing on bridging organization of the information and how to then get the user to the information that they were seeking. Also I looked at how the user will be using the site and the information that they receive. One thing that I think is unique to these sites that are typically accessed by adults but definitely can have a kids audience is whether it would be appropriate to have a part of the site that is geared to engaging kids for example should one page be activities, web cams of animals, games, interactive map, etc. I think that for a site like this you have to look at who will be using it and how much fast information do they want. Typically, I find that when I am trying to locate a place the information that I want right away is the hours, directions, address, events, etc. I also think that many sites now bridge their social media and their site for money saving specials, events, tracking users/ likes of users, etc. I think that having knowledge for this in designing this type of site is vital to improving a site that I felt was not as user friendly as it could have been.