

MINUTES
University Lakes, Vegetation and Landscape Committee
June 11, 2020 at 9:00 AM
Planning, Design & Construction
Zoom Meeting

The University Lakes, Vegetation and Landscape Committee (ULVLC) met Thursday, June 11, 2020 at the University of Florida Planning, Design & Construction Division Zoom Meeting.

Members attending:

Gail Hansen De Chapman – Environmental Horticulture - Chair
Brad Barber – University Police Department
Donna Bloomfield – Grounds, Facility Services
Gregg Clarke – Director of Operations, Facility Services
Adam Dale – Assistant Professor, Entomology and Nematology Department
Linda Dixon – Director, Planning, Design & Construction
Brian Keith – Associate Director, University Libraries
Alpa Nawre – Assistant Professor, Landscape Architecture
Tom Schlick – Assistant Director of Grounds, Facility Services

Members not attending:

Carlos Dougnac – AVP, Planning, Design & Construction
Craig Hill, AVP, Business Affairs
Ryan O’Hern - Student
Francisco Oquendo – Assistant Director, Planning, Design & Construction
Brett Scheffers – Assistant Professor, Wildlife Ecology
Matt Williams – Director, Sustainability
Joe Wu – Assistant University Librarian

Visitors attending:

Melissa Thomas – Administrative, Planning, Design & Construction
Erik Lewis – Sr. Planner, Planning, Design & Construction
Tamera Baughman– Planning, Design & Construction
Geoffrey Higgins– Planning, Design & Construction
Stuart Cullen– Planning, Design & Construction
Frank Javaheri – Director of Construction, Planning, Design & Construction
Laurie Hall – CHW
Heather White – Associate VP & Dean of Students
SevaPriya Barrier – Associate Dean of Students
Tom Wichman – IFAS Statewide Coor./Extension Program Manager

I. Adoption of Agenda and May 2020 Minutes

Motion: Adam Dale moved to approve the agenda and to adopt the minutes with spelling corrections for Camellias t.

Second: Alpa Nawre

Motion Carried Unanimously

II. MAJOR PROJECTS

UF-654 – Honors Dormitory Residential College

Geoffrey Higgins

Geoffrey introduced himself and began by stating he was before the committee seeking Programming and site selection approval. He discussed the location, schedule, and description of the project. He stated the location would be at the Broward Recreational area. This project will happen in two phases. The first phase will be demolishing the existing recreational area and they may also include the pool area because of the utilities going in but the design team is trying to leave the pool area alone. The second phase will be construction. The committee asked about the palms and if they will be relocated or replanted. Frank Javaheri stated, if possible, they would be relocating them.

Geoffrey showed the renderings of what the buildings might look like. It will be a 5 to 6 story building. There will be 910 double bedrooms, 438 single suites and 17 ADS suites. This will make a total of 1400 beds for the Honors College. There are 3200 honors students and only a 1000 is housed currently. The new building should be able to house the rest of the honors students. There will be 700 first years, 350 sophomores, 350 juniors that make the total 1400. Geoffrey stated that the building design team would scale down the building close to the Yulee pit. It will not look like that. It will be reconfigured to not impact the pit, green space, and walkways. They will rework the areas crosswalks to continue those for the pedestrian walkways. Committee members expressed concern about losing the recreational space. Linda Dixon stated that a new recreational center was being proposed where Rawlings Hall currently sits but, noted that the project is not currently funded. The plan was to create a neighborhood with the housing buildings and the dining halls.

Geoffrey went over the tree survey and said that the design team would be saving the Heritage Pecan tree and Live Oak trees. The only trees along Museum Road that will be impacted are for chilled water and utility hookup. The committee suggested that the pool be saved and to create a gathering place for the students. This area could be reconfigured for use for programs and other student events. The committee asked the design team to look at the crosswalks from Museum Road up through the housing halls, by the pool and through to the dining halls. Geoffrey said that they will be working with Grounds to relocate the palms. Adam Dale asked protect the Sycamore tree t along with the other two heritage trees shown on the tree survey.

Motion: Adam Dale made the motion to approve the site and tree removals with the exception of the Heritage Pecan, Live Oak, and the 17” DBH Sycamore. In addition, the pool should be avoided if possible and that the landscape plan reflect the principles of the LMP with consideration to tie-in the surrounding green space to enhance the area in general.

Second: Alpa Nawre

Motion Carried Unanimously

UAA-60 – Soccer Team Facilities & Lacrosse Facility Improvements

Stuart Cullen

Stuart introduced himself and stated he was before the committee seeking approval for Advanced Schematic Design. He went over the project location, background, and status. There is an existing maintenance facility, for equipment for the sport as well as maintaining the fields. There is also an existing Lacrosse Building. Currently, the offices for the coaches are in another building and this project renovation/addition will provide offices for the Soccer and Lacrosse coaches. There will also be team areas created for the team members to meet. The facility is to provide for both sports, coaches, and team members. The buildings will join in the center and both will share the common areas of the two buildings.

The proposed tree impacts are 20 palms and 4 Live Oak trees. These trees will have to be removed or relocated to accommodate the new building. The palms will also be removed because of the new utilities going in for the new building. Stuart stated he did not bring a rendering for this project at this time, but he should have it at Design Development. The replanting around the west side of the building was proposed to be Crape Myrtle trees and on the east side because of utilities. The design team will look for opportunities for replanting or relocating to try to mimic the palms in front of the existing building. Adam Dale asked to look at Landscape Master Plan and try not to use the Crape Myrtle trees and use something else. The committee discussed the

project, trees, and utilities. It was also suggested that the project come back at Design Development with a plan for landscape, sidewalks, and removal versus relocating.

Motion: Brain Keith made the motion to approve the project as presented with a request that efforts be made to relocate trees to an appropriate site and to consider trees other than Crape Myrtles in the landscape plan.

Second: Alpa Nawre

Motion Carried Unanimously

UF-401 Part III – Music Building HVAC Renovation Transformer & Switchgear Tamera Baughman

Tamera introduced herself and stated she was before the committee seeking approval for Programming and site selection I. She said that the project had come before the committee at the beginning of the Music Building project. At that time, it was suggested, instead of a large brick wall to put in shrubs with a knee wall to hide a new power transformer. During construction, it was determined that a new switchgear package was need to be added to the transformer area. The pieces of equipment are about 4 to 5 feet tall each. Grounds has been working with the design team and Tom Schlick suggested the 7-gallon podocarpus shrubs. The committee stated that, this particular shrub has been overused on campus and they would like to see something else used. Tamera asked for suggestions. The committee suggested camellia's and that would be in line with the Camellia project on campus. It was also suggested holly bushes would as well. The committee asked if there could be just plantings and no knee wall.

Motion: Alpa Nawre made a motion to approve the project as presented with removal of the knee wall and that the shrub plantings look at alternatives such as Camellia's.

Second: Brain Keith

Motion Carried Unanimously

III. OTHER BUSINESS

Grounds Report

Tom Schlick

There was no Grounds report this month.

There being no further business for discussion, the meeting adjourned at 10:45 AM.