

Business Affairs
Office of the Vice President

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December 16, 2024

Gail Hansen De Chapman, Chair
University Lakes, Vegetation and Landscaping Committee
PO Box 110675
Gainesville, FL 32601

Dear Ms. Hansen:

After reviewing the minutes of the University Lakes, Vegetation and Landscaping Committee (LVLC) meeting held on November 07, 2024, please note the following:

1. The LVLC recommends approving the UF – 683 – Dental Science Building Envelope Repairs project as presented.

I approve the committee's recommendation.

2. The LVLC recommends tabling the UF – 692 - Chemical Engineering Renovation and Remodeling project as presented.

I approve the committee's recommendation.

Sincerely,



Brandi Renton
Interim Vice President for Business Affairs

cc: Committee Members
Rick Falcon
Linda Dixon

MINUTES

University Lakes, Vegetation and Landscaping Committee

November 07, 2024, at 9:00 AM

HYBRID MEETING

The University Lakes, Vegetation and Landscaping Committee (LVLC) met Thursday, November 7th, 2024, for a meeting hosted in the PDC conference room and online.

Members attending:

Gail Hansen De Chapman – Environmental Horticulture - Chair
Gregg Clarke – Director of Operations, Facilities Services
Fernando Alferez – Assistant Professor, Citrus Horticulture
Linda Dixon – Director, Planning, Design & Construction
Adam Dale – Assistant Professor, Entomology and Nematology Department
Matt Williams – Director, Office of Sustainability
Tom Schlick – Assistant Director of Grounds, Facilities Services
Rachel Mallinger – Assistant Professor, Entomology and Nematology Department

Members not attending:

Nancy Chrystal-Green – Associate Vice President, Division of Student Life
David Conser – City of Gainesville – City Arborist
Ryan Klein – Assistant Professor, Environmental Horticulture
Gerardo Nunez – Assistant Professor, Horticultural Sciences
Brandi Renton – Associate Vice President, Business Affairs
Lucas Majure – Assistant Curator, FLMNH
Tim Martin – Associate Professor, School of Forest Resources and Conservation
Cydney McGlothlin – AVP, Planning, Design & Construction
Monika Oli – Master Lecturer, Microbiology and Cell Science
Latrell Simmons – UFPD, Major, Support Services Division & Community Services Division
Jordan Benton – Director, Facility Services
Wesley Freeman – Student

Visitors attending:

Rick Falcon – Administrative Specialist, Planning, Design & Construction
Frank Javaheri – Director of Construction, Planning, Design & Construction
Milo Zaapata – Project Manager, Planning, Design & Construction
Stephen Caron – Project Manager, Planning, Design & Construction
Amy Gooden – Wetland Solutions Inc.
Scott Knight – Wetland Solutions Inc.
Lee Hart – Construction Manager, Stellar
Marley Concha – Student
Megan Laffey – Student

I. Adoption of Agenda and Minutes

Motion: Adam Dale made a motion to adopt the agenda and approve the September minutes.

Second: Fernando Alferez

Motion Carried Unanimously

II. OTHER BUSINESS

Lake Alice Watershed Management Plan

Presenting: Scott Knight & Amy Goodden

The plan aimed to address critical stormwater problems on campus, including erosion, flooding, and algae blooms. Scott also discussed the history of Lake Alice, its evolution, and the impact of impervious areas on campus. The conversation ended with no open questions or action items identified.

Scott discussed the comprehensive approach taken to analyze the hydrologic system on campus, including lakes, creeks, wetlands, sinkholes, and stormwater infrastructure. He highlighted the unique regulatory framework governing Lake Alice and the importance of considering current and future planning, construction, and maintenance operations. Funding concerns were also addressed, with a focus on exploring funding strategies. The project's visibility and resonance with the local, national, and international community were emphasized, with a particular focus on community outreach and facilitation. Scott also discussed the topography of the watershed, the challenges posed by the erodible sediments, and the need to categorize the diverse goals for Lake Alice. He concluded by emphasizing the importance of protecting and improving the natural areas on campus, which are considered a critical component of the University of Florida.

Scott discussed the extensive process of creating a report on stormwater management on campus. The initial plan was to write a single report, but due to the volume of information collected, it was decided to split it into 7 attachment reports and a main report. The attachment reports covered various aspects such as historical documents, data analysis, facilitation process, stormwater modeling, vegetation information, project prioritization, and operation and maintenance plan. Scott highlighted the numerous recommendations made, including specific stormwater projects, channel stabilization, water quality source control, planning and design process, operation and maintenance, funding, ongoing data collection, and conservation areas. He also mentioned the need for a total maximum daily load for Lake Alice and the development of a living watershed management plan.

Scott presented the issues surrounding conservation areas and wetlands on campus, highlighting the challenges of stormwater management and the impact of high velocity water on erosion. He suggested improvements such as an edge standard for conservation areas, better communication between maintenance groups and students/faculty, and a 3rd party review of stormwater plans to avoid new or increased impacts. Scott also emphasized the importance of vegetation management, invasive species control, and ongoing maintenance with monitoring. He recommended that someone on the grounds team gets certifications for pesticide application in natural areas and training in species identification.

Scott and Linda discussed the stormwater management plan highlighting opportunities to enhance natural areas while providing conveyance treatment and storage. They discussed the potential for these areas to be more protective of ecosystems and habitats, and to improve recreational opportunities. Linda clarified that the project was initiated by Facility Services and managed by PDC, with Scott and Amy as the consultant team. Gail asked about the connection between this project and the conservation area land management plans, to which Linda and Scott explained that there is internal consistency and the plans reference each other. Scott also mentioned that the report includes recommendations for the management of conservation and recreation activities in the Conservation Areas, such as Lake Alice.

Scott and Linda discussed the next steps for their respective initiatives, with Linda providing an update on the stormwater intervention projects and the ongoing efforts to improve project management. They also discussed the possibility of contracting out the 3rd party review for the new projects.

III. MAJOR PROJECTS

UF-683 - Dental Science Building Envelope Repairs

Presenting: Milo Zapata

Milo then presented the repairs project, which is currently at 60% construction documents and will repair selected areas of the building exterior to mitigate water intrusion. The project also involves staging the construction around existing trees, with a mitigation fee of \$3,500 for the removal of six palm trees and one magnolia.

In the meeting, the committee discussed the removal of palm trees from a construction site. They identified the trees as cabbage palms and considered the possibility of planting new trees on the site after construction. Lee Hart explained the need to remove a magnolia tree

due to an excavation against a wall, which would compromise the tree's root ball. The team agreed to take a closer look at the site and utilities to determine the feasibility of replanting trees. Gail ended the conversation by asking for any additional questions or comments. Adam, Lee, Milo, and Gail discussed the construction plan for the project, emphasizing the need to protect existing trees during the process. They agreed to implement measures to ensure the trees' safety.

Motion: Adam Dale made a motion to approve the project with additional comments on enhancing tree protection during the renovations.

Second: Rachel Mallinger

Motion Carried unanimously

UF-692 – Chemical Engineering Renovation and Remodeling

Presenting: Stephen Caron

The project involves a 54,000 square foot renovation, including the addition of a new entrance lobby. Stephen mentioned that there are no current tree impacts but anticipated some in the future. Gail asked Stephen to revisit the topic in the next meeting to discuss the potential tree impacts in more detail.

Adam expressed concern about approving a project without knowing the potential impacts, particularly on trees. Stephen explained that while there are currently no identified tree impacts, there will likely be some due to ongoing design. Linda clarified that this is a typical situation during the programming phase, with more detailed information usually available at the second presentation.

Motion: Adam Dale made a motion to table the project until next month when more information about potential tree impacts would be available.

Second: Rachel Mallinger

Motion Carried unanimously

IV. MINOR PROJECTS

None

V. OTHER BUSINESS (cont'd)

Landscaping and Natural Resource Projects

Presenting: Thomas Schlick

Tom provided an update on the Norman tree removal and courtyard restoration, as well as ongoing projects like Weil Hall and the Tigert area.

New Member Orientation

No new members were present. Orientation postponed for the next LVL meeting.

Chair Report _____ **Gail Hansen de Chapman / Adam Dale**

No report

There being no further business for discussion, the meeting adjourned at

10:11AM.