

MINUTES

University Lakes, Vegetation and Landscape Committee

April 13th, 2017 at 9:00 AM

Planning, Design and Construction Conference Room 235 Stadium

Members attending:

Donna Bloomfield – PPD – Grounds
Gail Hansen De Chapman – Chair - Environmental Horticulture
Harold Barrand - Planning, Design and Construction
Linda Dixon – Planning, Design and Construction
Katerie Gladdys – Art & Art History
Craig Hill – Business Affairs
Jeff Holcomb – University Police Department
Jeanna Mastrodicasa – Assistant Vice President - IFAS
Betsy Ruff – College of Law
Liz Storn – Sustainability
Tom Wichman – PPD- Grounds

Members not attending:

Gregg Clarke – PPD- Operations
Carlos Dougnac - Planning, Design and Construction
Chris Marble - Environmental Horticulture
Jason Richards - Student
Mark Siburt – City of Gainesville
Emma Weeks – Entomology

Also attending:

Erik Lewis – Planning, Design and Construction
Frank Javaheri – Planning, Design and Construction
Howie Ferguson - Planning, Design and Construction
Cydney McGlothlin – Planning, Design and Construction
Gonzalo Casado – Grimshaw
Chritian Hoeingschmiel – Grimshaw
Robert Walpole - CHW
Erick Smith via phone – Kestrel Environmental
Clay Sweger – EDA
Larry Teague – Zamia
Jennifer Meisenhelder – Physical Plant Division
Jason Haeseler – Physical Plant Division
Robert Walpole – CHW
Buford Davis – CHW
Donald Buaku – CHW

I. Adoption of Agenda and January Minutes (with addition of Larry Teague to attending)

Motion: **Jeanna Mastrodicasa made the motion to approve the agenda and minutes.**

Second: **Katerie Gladdys**

Motion Carried Unanimously

II. Major Projects

UF-626 – University House

Frank Javaheri

Frank gave an overview of the project stating that they were looking to renovate the existing house that was built in the 1950s. He went over some preliminary renderings, noting that the project architect has not been hired yet. He showed the site location and said that they would be filling in the swimming pool and adding space over it. Frank showed a new parking lot on the east side showing a proposed layout and said that they would also like to add a monument sign near the corner of SW 2nd and University Avenue. Frank showed a botanical garden in the middle of the parking lot and said that the parking layout would work to minimize impacts to trees. He continued stating that they would be looking to add a crosswalk across SW 2nd Avenue and that they wanted to put in a kitchen garden on the south west side of the house.

Gail Hansen De Chapmen asked if alternative locations had been considered for the parking lot. Frank said that they currently use the lawn where the parking is proposed for event parking. Gail asked who would maintain the garden. Frank said that it was being coordinated with IFAS, but was not aware of who. Katerie Gladdys asked about impacts to the trees along SW 2nd Avenue if a garden is put in. Tom Wichman noted that it would require a lot of sunlight for the garden to work. There was a group discussion on how much work was required to maintain an attractive year round vegetable garden as large as shown. Katerie asked about the tree impacts for the proposed botanical garden in the parking lot. Frank said that they would work to minimize impacts. Gail suggested that they look at alternative locations for the parking lot including along the SW 2nd side. Frank said that the paved parking lot would lessen impacts to the tree roots by not having vehicles parking on them as it is under existing conditions and said that they would also be addressing stormwater in the design. Betsy Ruff pointed out that putting parking in the back along SW 2nd would affect the view for events. Gail said she was concerned with the SW 2nd entrance shown on the renderings. Jeanna Mastrodicasa said that she was concerned with the proposed parking and stormwater and encouraged reducing the parking. Katerie suggested that they look at incorporating stormwater where the botanical garden was proposed. There was additional discussion on the vegetable garden. Frank said that the preliminary designs had been coordinated and vetted with SVP Charlie Lane and that he would be back in September with additional information. Gail reiterated that they should rethink the parking. Frank said that he had been instructed to maximize parking, while minimizing impacts to trees. There was discussion on the motion.

Motion: Jeanna Mastrodicasa made the motion to approve the project with the following recommendations:

- **Minimize parking in front (east)**
- **Reduce size of the kitchen garden**
- **Rethink including a botanical garden**
- **Minimize impacts to heritage trees**
- **Consider implication of SW 2nd Avenue projects (Football) in the design**
- **Maintain sufficient greenspace buffer along University Avenue and SW 2nd Avenue to minimize impacts to the outside (roadside) appearance.**

Second: Katerie Gladdys

Motion Carried Unanimously

Vet Med Chiller

Howie Ferguson

Howie brought arborist Erick Smith on via conference call and said that he was presenting a new ESCO (energy services company) plant that is being sited at Vet. Med. using a Performance Contract Agreement. He explained that they had to take the project to Design Development phase before they could bring it before the committee due to the logistics of figuring out a suitable location. He showed the site location on the old greyhound race track and went over the matrix that had been developed in order to select the best site. He went over the various constraints used in the matrix, noting that each site had issues. Howie went over tree impacts and showed all the trees that had been surveyed. He showed the site's relationship to the new parking lot that he had presented in January, where he had mentioned this project and that they were considering the area where the stormwater retention had been proposed. He went over the utility corridor that would run from the Vet. Med. buildings to the new utility plant and showed how the plant would be serviced from SW 16th Avenue. Howie went over the trees to be removed and highlighted a 50 DBF Live Oak that they would be unable to avoid. Robert Walpole went over the stormwater system that would also be located in the dog track area.

Clay Sweger, project manager, and Larry Teague, landscape architect. Clay showed the site location stating that they were doing a tear down and rebuild. He went over the site plan and trees that they were preserving on site. He said that they would like to remove a holly tree and a Laurel Oak. He said that they would mitigate on site, by planting street trees along SW 9th Avenue.

Katerie Gladdys asked why they were seeking to remove the Laurel Oak. Jason said that it was too close to the building and that they were concerned that it would die during construction.

Motion: Katerie Gladdys made the motion to approve the project with standard mitigation for the tree removals.

Second: Gail Hansen De Chapman

Motion Carried Unanimously

IV. Other Business

Master Plan Amendments

Erik Lewis

Erik said that he was presenting amendments to the Capital Improvements Element of the Master Plan, noting that there were no Future Land Use amendments in the package. He highlighted a new portion of the amendment package that had been added to help keep track of the square footage the University is building and how it relates to the Campus Development Agreement with the City and County. He said that under the Agreement, the University has prepaid for a specified amount of future development and that when the University goes over that amount it will have to renegotiate with both entities for additional impacts. He continued that there had been a legislative trust fund to pay for these impacts, but that during the recession the legislature had allowed the trust fund to sunset leaving future payment funds uncertain. Erik went over the updates included in the plan, noting that items in bold indicated a change to an existing project and those in yellow were new projects.

Motion: Betsy Ruff made the motion to approve the Master Plan Amendments as presented.

Second: Katerie Gladdys

Motion Carried Unanimously

There being no further business for discussion, the meeting adjourned at 10:50 AM.